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King reaffirms rejection of separate peace

Arafat underlines confederation concept, urges King to seek U.S. intervention in peace process in meeting with Clinton

Peres backtracks on claim of accord with Jordan, suggests meeting with Sharaa and return of more long-term Palestinian expellees



His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday greets Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

By P.V. Vivekanand with agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday dismissed as distorted and inaccurate an Israeli assertion that the Jewish state and Jordan had agreed on a peace accord, and reaffirmed that the Kingdom's negotiations with Israel could advance only after tangible progress has been made in the Palestinian-Israeli track of the 19-month-old Middle East peace process.

When all the circles are completed regarding all the issues, primarily the Palestinians' right on their national soil, then it is possible to advance," the King told the press after two rounds of meetings with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

The King reiterated Jordan's commitment to the Palestinian cause. "We have a just and comthing in our power to defend it,"

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who asserted Sunday that Jordan and Israel had reached a peace agreement, was meanwhile reported to backing off from the claim.

The Jerusalem Post, an English-language Israeli daily, reported Tuesday that Mr. Peres on Monday "backed off his own statement a day before, suggesting that a Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty was just waiting to be signed."
"Peres said that he was refer-

ring only to a framework accord," the Post reported. It did not say where and when the foreign minister had made the

In an agreement reached in October on a draft agenda for its track of negotiations with Israel,

Jordan has only agreed that the objective of the peace talks is the signing of a peace treaty. However, this "framework accord had never been finalised due to the continued stalemate in the Palestinian talks," the Post ack-

King Hussein said Tuesday that work was still under way on the Jordanian-Israeli agenda "to put in an acceptable formula."

Mr. Arafat, meanwhile, referred to the possibility of a future confederation between Jordan and a Palestinian state to be created in the now-Israelioccupied territories.

Describing Jordanian-Palestinian relations as unique, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) noted that resolutions adopted by the Palestine National Council,

(Continued on page, 10)



Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah and members of the Royal Family, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al

Majali and senior officials, at the Royal Palace Tuesday where he hosted a lunch as part of celebration of Prince Abdullah's wedding on

King hosts lunch for wedding guests

AMMAN (Petra) - His. Majesty King Hussein Tuesday hosted a lunch at the Royal Court in honour of senior military and civil officials, tribal chiefs and refugee

The lunch, which was hosted as part of celebrations of His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah's marriage which also attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdulla, Prince Faisal, Prince Ali, Prince Hamzeh and Prince Hashim, sons of King Hussein, as well as the Private Chamberlain Prince Ali Ben Nayef, King Hussein's military advisor, His Royal Highness Prince

Talal Ben Mohammad, His Royal Highness Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad, former Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali, speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament and senior government officials as well as invited guests and journalists.

Hoar in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Lieutenant-General Joseph Hoar, commander of the U.S. Central Command, arrived in Amman Tuesday on a several-day visit to Jordan. Gen. Hoar, who is accompanied by an official de-legation, was welcomed upon arrival by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Lieutenantsenior army officers as well as U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Roger Harrison.

Ruwait says it will execute 5 Iragis

KUWAIT (R) - Death sentences imposed by a Kuwait court on five Iraqis for aiding Iraq's 1990 invasion would be carried out after authorisation from the emir, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported Tuesday. It quoted Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah as saying: "Any death sentence will be executed after the signature of his highness the emir of Kuwait." The five men may still appeal against their sentence to the appeal court, which has the authority to commute the sentence to a term of imprisonant. The state security court Sunday found the five guilty of trying to recruit Kuwaitis to join Iraq's ruling Baath Party follow-

Vranitzky in Israel

ing Iraq's August 1990 invasion.

TEL AVIV (AP) — Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky arrived in Israel Tuesday, marking the first time the head of the Austrian government has ever made an official visit to the Jewish state. "This is definitely an indication of the change in the relations between our two countries," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said as he prepared to greet Mr. Vranitzky at Ben Gurion airport near Tel Aviv. "We certainly welcome this visit." Relations between the two countries have warmed since President Kurt Waldheim left office last July after not seeking reelection.

Plane crashes in Sudan, 11 killed

KHARTOUM (AP) — A plane hired by a gold-mining company crashed Tuesday in eastern Sudan, killing all 11 people aboard including five Westerners, the official Sudan News Agency said. The agency said victims were the pilot, a New Zealander, and officials of the Ariab Gold Mines Co., a French-Sudanese joint venture. It said the plane Went down at Ariab airstrip, about 450 kilometres east of the capital Khartoum. The agency Spoted Abdul Aziz Ahmad Osman, the company's general director, as saying the plane rashed shortly after takeoff and caught fire. "It split in half," he said. "Four of the passengers Were flung out."

Officials deny discussing changes to Election Law

Deputies meet today for consultations

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Government officials said Tuesday that the as expecting the amendments to Cabinet had not discussed amending the Election Law.

government is concerned, there has been no discussion of amending or changing the Election Law," Information Minister true," said Dr. Abu Nowar. Ma'an Abu Nowar told the Jordan Times.

Dr. Abu Nowar and Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Jawad Al Anani both categorically denied a report carried by the Jordan Times and the Londonbased Al Havat daily Tuesday. The report quoted unidentified sources as saying that a committee headed by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali had recommended changes to the law. "There is no such committee

whatsoever," Dr. Abu Nowar '(The reported committee)

does not exist," Dr. Anani told the Jordan Times, confirming that the Cabinet had not discussed any changes to the Election

The report claimed that the committee recommended amending the Election Law to introduce. a one-man-one-vote system, lower the voting age from 19 to 18 and cancel an article banning tary elections.

It quoted "informed sources" be introduced into the law after the return of His Majesty King "I can assure you that as far as Hussein from a trip he is scheduled to make to the United States next week.

The report is "completely un-Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Arabiyat said Monday Dr. Majali had assured him that no decision to amend the Election Law had

been taken by the government.
"The prime minister said the government had not taken any decision (on changing the law) and that any move in this context would be preceded by consultations in which everybody would participate," Dr. Arabiyat told the Jordan Times after a meeting

with Dr. Majali. The prime minister's assurances, however, do not seem assuring enough to Jordan's largest political movement, the Muslim Brotherhood, which is seeking an extraordinary session of the House to ensure that the law would not be changed

through a temporary legislation. Influential Brotherhood Deputy Hammam Sa'id told the Jordan Times Tuesday that the Brotherhood would seek the support of

members of "illegal organisa- other parliamentarians in reof the House during a meeting of deputies to discuss this issue Wednesday.

The mandate of the House runs till mid-November and the Constitution stipulates that an extraordinary session could be held at the request of 41 deputies or

Member of Parliament and former Prime Minister, Taher Al Masri, said the meeting was called to "hold consultations among ourselves," and not to agree on a request for an extraordinary ses-

Dr. Arabiyat, a Brotherbood leader, said no agenda had been set for the meeting, which he said was being held at the request of a number of deputies to discuss "a number of issues."

In a statement it issued after a meeting of its members Tuesday. the Brotherhood said: "Any amendment to the Election Law should go through the legislative organisations in order to protect-..national unity ."

Dr. Sa'id said Brotherhood members were not satisfied with Dr. Majali's assurances that change would be introduced only after consulting with all sectors of "Consultation is a broad term.

(Continued on page 2)

Clinton to play 'personal' role in peace process

dent Bill Clinton, in an interview with the Israeli newspaper, Davar, has promised to personally intervene in the Middle East peace talks that resume in Washington next week. The president was quoted as saying ne chances for progress since both Israeli and Syrian leadership have confidence in the U.S. He said moderate Palestinians

were convinced that reaching peace is the only alternative for the agenda of the radicals.

He said Palestinians were facing tremendous pressure but despite that they are doing all what

they can to achieve peace. President Clinton also said he was ready to provide both Israel and Syria with security guarantees in the Golan Heights. U.S. Secretary of State Warren

Christopher has told the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organisations that the U.S. will demonstrate "by its deeds" during the upcoming round of Middle East peace talks that the talks are a priority for the Clinton administration.

"The peace process is front and centre in our minds, and we will demonstrate this by our deeds in the weeks ahead," sources quoted Mr. Christopher as telling conference chairman Lester Pollack and executive director Malcolm Hoenlein in a 40-minute meeting Monday, according to

the Jerusalem Post. Mr. Christopher said it would be "a great loss to the peace involved." The secretary of state,

AMMAN (J.T.) — U.S. Presi- who was joined int he meeting by top aides, voiced confidence that progress would be made in the uncoming round.

Mr. Christopher said the Arabs and Israelis have already agreed to come to the talks which resume in the U.S. next Tuesday. The Arab parties, however, fell short of formally, announcing the participation at a foreign ministers

meeting in Amman. These remarks on greater U.S. involvement coincide with reports that Mr. Christopher plans to increase the U.S. profile in talks with Syria, and not only with the Palestinians, the Post

Furthermore, his words also seemed designed to dispel recent remarks by Undersecretary for Political Affairs Peter Taraoff, who last month told reporters the U.S. would only intervene abroad commensurate with its vital national and economic in-

In preliminary parallel talks, among U.S., Palestinian, and Israeli negotiators this week, and once peace talks resume on June 15, the first order of business on the Palestinian track is to reach an Israeli-Palestinian joint document outlining agreement on

Meanwhile Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin denied allegations by Labour faction deputies that he had suggested upgrading the delegation heads in the Washington process if the U.S. would not be negotiations to the foreign minister level.

Prices of kerosene, fuel oil and jet fuel increased

AMMAN (Petra) - The government Tuesday announced increases in the prices of some oil products as with immediate

Minister of Supply Radi Ibrahim said the rise covers kerosene, fuel oil used by the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and the Irbid District Electric Company and jet fuel sold to Royal

Under the increases. approved by the Cabinet, a litre of kerosene will be sold for 90 fils, up from 75 fils, and a litre of jet fuel will be sold for 95 fils, up from 80 fils. A tonne of fuel oil will be sold for JD 49, up from JD 43.

Mr. Ibrahim said the increase in prices falls within the government plans to reduce irrational consumption of kerosene and to avoid adulteration by some fuel stations and fuel distributors who used to mix diesel oil with kerosene to make

A littre of diesel oil is sold for 105 fils.

Mr. Ibrahim said the government had formed a special committee grouping representatives of the ministries of energy and mineral resources, finance, planning and social development to work out a mechanism to compensate low-income groups for the increase in price of kerosene, widely used for healing 22d

Oil found near Dead Sea, page 3

More fighting in Somalia as U.N. sharpens its teeth

MOGADISHU (Agencies) — Gunmen opened fire on U.N. military headquarters Tuesday and met with a machine-gun barrage as clashes with Somali gunmen kept the city on edge and raised fears of more violence.

Pakistan flew home the bodies of 23 peacekeepers killed in a weekend shootout with Somali gunmen and the U.N. honed plans to go after militiamen blamed for the murders.

At a sombre ceremony at Mogadishu international airport. representatives of several of other countries currently serving in the 24-nation peacekeeping force turned out to bid their fallen comrades farewell.

A Muslim cleric first recited Islamic prayers before all 23 aluminium coffins, each bearing a small United Nations flag on top, were carried across the tarmac to the sound of a bugle call and

loaded on to a waiting plane. Turkish Lieutenant General Cevik Bir, commander of U.N. forces in the broken Horn of Africa country, attended the brief service at which no speeches were

Gen. Bir has accused Mogadishu warlord Mohammad Farah Aideed and his men of responsibility for the slayings which he

said took place after a series or coordinated ambushes. U.N. sources said the world body, its authority challenged by one of the bloodiest incidents in the history of peackeeping opera-

tions, would strike back "within a matter of days." "A big push is expected, the U.N. can simply not let this go. Too much — like Bosnia and

one source who asked not to be

Barricades and burned-out cars littered the streets and foreign relief workers were nowwhere to be seen, most flaving been evacuated after S...aurday's firefight. Pakistan has complained its

streets.

soldiers were left to fend for themselves for hours after being ambushed Saturday. But Mai. Stockwell defended the response of the U.S.'s elite Quick Reaction Force (QRF), a 1,100-man team specially trained to deal with such uprisings. -

Foreign aid workers and U.N.

personnel said the United Na-

tions operation in Somalia (UN-

OSOM) would boost its military

hardware and then go after Gen.

Aideed and his supporters with

an overwhelming show of force.

transport planes are expected to

begin flying in reinforcements.

tanks and armoured personnel

carriers later Tuesday.
Two Somalis died Monday in

battles outside Pakistani mil tary

headquarters, and before dawn

Tuesday snipers using

machineguns and small arms be-

gan firing at U.N. military head-quarters in the old U.S. embassy

compound, said U.S. Army Ma-

Helicopters took to the skies

and swooped low over the city

with searchlights while troops

fired in the direction of the snip-

ers. There were no reports of

casualties. Maj. Stockwell said

the gunmen apparently were fir-

ing from two locations simul-

Low-flying helicopters con-

tinued to patrol after sunrise

Tuesday, but there were no milit-

ary vehicles on the crowded

jor David Stockwell.

U.S. C-130 galaxy military

Gulf war 'returnees' to be factor in Jordan ballot

Reuter

decades

"Ninety-five per cent of them will not vote for anyone Kuwait.

Seventeen political parties including the Muslim Brotherhood, pan-Arabists and leftists will stand in Jordan's November ballot. Many of the groups

left or were forced out from Kuwait after Iraq invaded the emirate. Mostly of Palestinian origin, their families had

Although many Palestinians in Kuwait emotionally suptical analysts say.

ates who will adopt economic issues, or ways to integrate them into the society and who will present a potential for improving ties with the Gulf," Mr. Abu Bakr said.

the same level of participation expected from the general population of the Kingdom.

The majority of returnees, twice scarred by the Arab-Israeli conflict, would also back candidates supporting Middle East peace efforts, officials said.

"Over the past four decades, what did we get from opposing Israel's existence and from sticking to the war option to liberate Palestine," asked housewife Jamilah Jadallah, who went to Kuwait after the 1967 war.

"Let us give diplomacy a chance, maybe talks will do some good.'

Prominent returnees have begun charting strategies to back candidates. But relatively new to the country and with little power base, none has shown a desire to stand in the first general multi-party elections since 1957.

"Most of them will cast conservative votes... they will be in favour of moderation in all

Masri, a long-time deputy and former prime minister. Despite their large numbers

ated pockets of prosperity. Their dollars have flooded the market, boosting the dinar, and savings used to build homes have fuelled a construction boom. Some have opened small businesses or found jobs

But the influx has also cre-

Unlike Palestinian refugees whose harsh living conditions in camps in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon generally contributed

Palestinian community formed a moderate professional class.

cial mobility, exposure to diverse cultures and a relatively

ing poverty and political despair had a minimal presence in Kuwait, officials said. "Mest returnees are supportive of the present state of

inent lawyer who lived in Kuwait for more than two de-But some, such as driver

"Damn all these politicians. What have they done for us apart from landing us in this misery," he asked. Cambodia - is at stake," said

By Rana Sabbagh

AMMAN - Gulf war "returnees" - Jordanians forced to leave Kuwait - are expected to be a moderating factor in Jordan's first multi-party par-liamentary election in three

aligned to the Islamic current or Iraq," said Tawfiq Abu Bakr, a member of the Palestinian parliament-in-exile and a former prominent activist in

backed the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Nearly 300,000 Jordanians

moved to Kuwait after the 1948 and 1967 Arab-Israeli

They acquired their Jordanian citizenship between 1948 and 1967 when the West Bank was part of Jordan. In their adopted homeland of Kuwait, where many were born, they had no prospect of becoming

ported Iraq, those who were thrown out in punishment for PLO and Jordanian support for Baghdad are bitter over the invasion and tired of war, poli-"They will vote for moder-

Officials estimate that at least half of the nearly 150,000 eligible voter returnees are expected to cast a ballot, about

Palestinians have traditionally been under-represented in Jordan's political system, now dominated by Islamists. Many see the ballot as an opportunity to make their voices heard. Many of the returnees are

struggling to make ends meet in a small country of about 3.9 million people facing a huge foreign debt and a dramatic rise in poverty and unemploy-

in the private sector.

to a hardening of political views, the wealthy emirate's Higher living standards, so-

liberal press infused moderation and conservatism among the well-educated community. Muslim fundamentalist movements, feeding on grow-

affairs in Jordan, the democracy and openness," declared Mohammad Mulhem, a prom-

Mohammad Salem, are too bitter to vote.

Turkey decrees limited amnesty rebels; PKK declares war

MKARA (R) - Turkey million Kurds. oursounced a diluted amnesty for Surdish guerrillas Tuesday despite a surge in violence which ins killed 330 people in the past

A government decree said that with immediate effect people who "armed bands" of their own free would not be prosecuted unions they had committed acts of

An earlier government draft provided for reduced sentences for all Kurdish guerrillas who cave themselves up, regardless of their military activities, but this clause was stripped out of the remion published Tuesday.

The decree did not mention Hurdish Labour Party (PKK) by manue but said it applied to the emergency rule region in the southeast where a Kurdish revolt has smouldered for nine years. it was published before the Turkish government heard that the head of the PKK, Abdullah Occion, had announced the PKK was resuming all-out war against

At a news conference in eastern Lebanon, Mr. Ocalan said the guerrillas considered that the unilateral ceasefire they declared an March had failed. hir. Ocalan blamed the Tur-

is a coverament for the collarse of the ceasefire, which he had unilaterally declared on the occa-Hen of Nowruz, the Kurdish new

is said the renewed violence meant the "death of hope" for a actilement to the nine-year con-list, sparked by the PKK's cam-paign for self-rule for Turkey's 10

ging from Lebanon and have

cancelled hundreds of passes

allowing Syrians and Lebanese to

and a special route over the bor-

anial one of the largest ever opera-

...ans against the lucrative trade

egan on both sides of the Syrian-

seenese berder last month and

Ser said Syrian border offic-

and stepped up searches of

contra-

cand and were now stopping even

diplomats bringing in goods un-

less they had all necessary per-

mile from the ministry of foreign

Scores of roadside vendors on

the Syrian side of the border

selling cheap contraband

They said the clean up was

73.735 (AP) - A leading Alge-

than dissident in exile was

arrested by German police Mon-

der when he went to renew his

Man informed Muslim sources in

Rabah Kebir, spokesman-in-

Salvation Front (FIS), was

amasted in Euriskirchen, near

scoress, who refused to be furth-

ers. Monday morning, the

Limitified, told the Associated

His wife and five young chil-

area, who were with him, were

showed to return to their home in

Police gave no reason for the

intestion as FIS source in Germany said "They said nothing.

The visit is completely legal," the

thim a visa extension of one

The family was trying to estab-

source said. "To prove it, they

month before he was arrested."

19th contact with Mr. Kebir

through Cerman authorities and

was taken into custody, according

independently confirmed.

the source.

North an enswer as to why he

To remorted arrest could not

TELEVISION

area, the sources said.

Commany and Algiers said.

strattes had disappeared, they

affairs in Damascus.

continuing inside Syria.

Diplomatic sources in Beirut

Some 200 rebels reportedly have been killed by the army in southeastern Turkey in the past

About 1,000 PKK fighters were

reported killed and 1,500 forced

to surrender in a Turkish cam-

paign in October which coincided

with a rapprochment between

The Syrians still provide sanc-

tuary for Mr. Ocalan and his top

aides in Damascus, but there are

no signs that they have allowed

the PKK to reopen training bases

in the Bekaa Valley, which is

The PKK Bekaa bases were

closed last year under heavy Tur-

kish pressure on the Damascus

government. Syria depends for

much of its waters on the Eup-

hrates River, which originates in

In Ankara, acting Prime Minis-

ter Erdal Inonu meanwhile made

clear the amnesty was aimed at

unwilling PKK recruits rather

than committed fighters.

"Any youth who has been

lured into joining the armed

group for any reason can go home

freely and will not be prosecuted

if he has not taken part in armed

action." Mr. Inonu said on state

television. "I want all these

young men to hear about this."

The amnesty, declared after a security meeting Monday held under President Saleyman De-

mirel, came under fire from

veteran far-right leader Alparslan

terrorism. On the contrary it will

encourage terrorists," Mr. Turkes, head of the Nationalist

Movement Party, told Anatolian

gling and end all kind of irregular

and illegal activities," said Mr.

.Hariri, adding he believed the

operations with the Syrians but

this last one was significant be-

Smuggling and the drugs trade

Military sources said 1,000

Lebanese troops arrested about

50 suspected smugglers and

gangsters in northern Lebanon

and closed 16 illegal ports on the

Mediterranean coast last month.

would be set up by the Lebanese army and police in two weeks to

coordinate the war on smugglers

and the closure of dirt roads over

Troops removed a large num-

The trial was held in one of

three secret courts specially set

up to deal with "terrorist" cases.

FIS members and sympathisers

continue to skirmish almost daily

with police and soldiers in Alger-

on the German government from

Algeria," the FIS source in Ger-

many said. "Certain parties were

able to convince the German

government to try and rid itself of

Mr. Kebir, it's completely politic-

A son of jailed front leader

Abassi Madani was also arrested by German police 10 days ago

and remains in custody, accord-

ing to the source.
Oussama Madani, 22, was

arrested May 27 by German bor-

der police who showed him an

international arrest warrant

issued by the International Police

They wanted to extradite him.

The younger Madani was

Organisation (INTERPOL).

but in the end they didn't have

the courage," the source said.

studying German in order to

"It's clear there was pressure

the border used by them.

They said an operations room

cause it was very big," he said.

thrived in eastern Lebanon dur-

ing the 1975-90 civil war.

"We have made several such

sweep was over in Lebanon.

"This will not belp prevent

policed by Syrian troops.

Turkey and Syria, the PKK's

main backer.

"It will be Turkey's bloodiest summer ever." Mr. Ocalan told a packed news conference at a house in Barr-Elias. This will be our response if

the Ankara government fails to quickly rein in its army's current campaign against us," said Mr. Ocalan, who drove into the Bekaa Valley from Damascus.

"We shall strike back with allout war. We shall hit economic and touristic interests throughout Turkey," he said.

We have adhered to the ceasefire, but the Turkish government failed to reciprocate. So the truce collapsed altogether and we have no other choice but to escalate the hostilities," said Mr. Ocalan, donning a khaki military

Ankara says the truce collapsed when rebels attacked a bus in Turkey's southeastern Bingol province, killing 33 soldiers and two civilians.

But the PKK rebels have claimed that the attack was mounted because the Turkish government had not respected the ceasefire.

"We now have 10,000 wellarmed fighters confronting the Turkish army on 15 battle fronts in southeast Turkey. We also have thousands of militiamen backing our frontline fighters," Mr. Ocalan said.

Ankara has refused to negotiate peace with the Kurds or consider their demands for self-rule. news agency.

Syria cracks down on Lebanon smuggling

rian border with Lebanon.

nas, along the 400-kilometre Sy-

Security sources said Syria had

cancelled hundreds of passes

issued by various ministries in

Damascus, which allowed

Lebanese and Syrians to drive

over the border from Lebanon on

a special military road where

vehicles were usually not sear-

· Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik

Al Hariri said Damascus had

cancelled the passes, which had

accumulated over the years until

even such people as bird hunters

had received them from Syria.

We are not going to give passes to

Asked whether this was the first

time the passes were revoked, he

Leading Algerian dissident held in Germany

Mr. Kebir, 37, was a high-

ranking member of the FIS which

was banned in Algeria early last

year after it was about to sweep

to victory in elections for a new

took power after forcing cancella-

tion of the second round of voting

in the legislative election and

outlawed the front, whose top leaders were already in jail.

Mr. Kebir fled Algeria in August, 1992 and has lived in Ger-

many for the past 10 months. He

has given news conferences and

issued four communiques during

that time, but was not involved in

activities that would have embar-

rassed or angered the German

government, according to the

He was not allowed to leave

Germany under the conditions of

his stay in the country, the

Mr. Kebir was given the death

sentence in absentia last month

during a trial in Algeria involving

a bomb attack on Algiers' inter-

national airport in August, 1992

sources said.

An army-backed committee

largest operation."

national assembly.

statistic against the smuggling of and the Syrians, to cut all smug- added.

'They have been cancelled.

he told Reuters.

rgest operation." smugglers' goods on the "We made a joint operation, us Lebanese side of the border, they

REPOUT (R) — Syrian author-goods and food, ranging from satellite television dishes to bana-

Rafsanjani looks set for reelection

TEHRAN (R) — Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, a mullah trying to end Iran's international isolation and move it towards a free market economy, looks set for an easy victory in Friday's presidential elections.

Iranian analysts and foreign diplomats said the 59-year-old president appears to be coasting towards a second five-year-term. In a rare opinion poll the news-paper Abrar said Tuesday he vould capture 54 per cent of the vote, well ahead of his strongest

Ahmad Tavakkoli, with 15 per Mr. Rafsanjani is one of four presidential candidates approved by Iran's clerical Council of Guardians — guaranteeing their credentials as true sons of the

challenger, economic writer

1979 Islamic revolution. But none of the other three has the stature or power base of Mr. Rafsaniani, who was among the early companions of the father of the revolution Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, and has held high office from its early days.

The other three all say they broadly support Mr. Rafsanjani's policies. The analysts said they offer no real alternative for any Iranian who might wish to see

change in Iran. Radicals, Mr. Rafsanjani's main rivals and opponents of his economic liberalisation, have stayed away from the race.

They would like Iran to return to the anti-Western militancy of the early revolutionary years and are the only significant establishment group not have endorsed his candidacy. The analysts said radicals were

still licking their wounds after their decisive defeat in last year's parliament elections.

The main remaining question is how many people will bother to vote. Abrar's survey showed a likely turnout of 78 per cent of some 20 million eligible voters, well above the 60 per cent or so who cast ballots in the parliamen tary poli.

Such a turnout would be a triumph for Iran's leaders. They fear voter apathy and a low turnout may undermine Mr. Rafsanjani's credibility at home and abroad and his ability to push through vital economic and institutional reforms.

The analysts said most Iranians see Mr. Rafsanjani as the most acceptable choice, but his government's popularity is at a particularly low point mainly due to Iran's persistent economic problems: High inflation, low wages, inefficient state industries and the shortage of foreign exchange.

and final election broadcast on Monday night, reminded voters of his prediction on assuming office four years ago that it would take a decade to rebuild the economy after the costly 1980-88 war with Iraq.

Mr. Rafsanjani, in his second

"I hope that at the end of the second term the country will be in a totally different shape than it was at the beginning," he said. A measure of the disenchantment was shown in the Abrar poll which indicated that 18 per cent of voters were likely to cast blank

ballot papers. The three challengers say they are serious contenders and that the electorate might yet spring some surprises.

Mr. Tavakkoli is challenging Mr. Rafsanjani from the right, calling for speedier reforms, lean government and big cuts in public

Abdullah Jasbi, who heads Iran's thriving Azad private university and is believed to have a significant following among young people, was expected by Abrar to take 14 per cent.

Rajabali Taheri, a former member of parliament likely to be remembered for breaking the taboo on advocating direct talks with the United States, will get one per cent, Abrar forecast.

Iraq's neighbours fear chaos in Kurdish area

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Iraq's three neighbours that border its northern Kurdish enclave said after a meeting in Tehran Monday they were concerned continued chaos there was threatening their own security.

The foreign ministers of Syria, Iran and Turkey said in a joint communique they supported the unity and territorial integrity of Iraq and would continue to oppose its dismemberment.

The three states, which have restive Kurdish minorities of their own, said they were "concerned about the impact on our own countries' security due to the lack of authority," in the Kurdish north that is outside the control of the Iraqi government.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin, whose country is fight-ing Kurdish separatist guerrillas, said: "No country can tolerate any terrorist action.

He said the end of the 1991 Gulf war had brought neither peace nor stability to north Iraq and pledged that his country would continue to strike if necessary at separatist bases in Iraq. Iran and Turkey have carried

out separate air strikes on Iraqi territory since the Gulf war to hit guernilla bases used for mounting attacks on their respective coun-

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa said the three states needed to consult on the situation in north Iraq because the chaotic situation there had not changed in the past two years.

We do not want to interfere in the internal affairs of Iraq... but we are determined to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our own countries," said Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

The ministers said their officials would continue to meet regularly to monitor the situation in north Iraq and that they would meet again in Istanbul in November to review the situation.

The three countries have held three meetings on the situation in Iraq since October. Since Baghdad's defeat in the

Gulf war over Kuwait, Kurds have set up a de facto autonomous region in northern Iraq. Gulf war allies have declared a 'no-fly" zone in the Kurdish north and another in the south to said.

U.N. officials said last month the world body was pulling out guards from northern Iraq as a first step to halting its aid programme in the Kurdish-held region due to lack of funds.

"The aim of our efforts has been to defuse tension in the region and prevent Iraq's disintegration," Mr. Velayati was quoted as saying during Monday's meetic

But Mr. Velayati also voiced concern over Baghdad's "repres-sive policies" against the Kurds in northern Iraq. The central gov-ernment has imposed an economic blockade on the area in an effort to undermine the separatist efforts by the Kurds. The 20 million Kurds, an Indo-

European race, are spread around five states — to 10 million in Turkey, 5.5 million in Iran, 3.5 million in Iraq, with small enclaves in Syria and the Soviet Union. They share a common language, related to Iran's Farsi tongue, and are overwhelmingly Sunni Muslims In other remarks, Mr. Velavati

said that Iran does not oppose the so-called Damascus declaration - a 2-year-old pact under which tens of thousands of Egyptian and Syrian troops were supposed to form the nucleus of a Gulf defence force.

The Iranians in the past have criticised any Gulf security arrangement that leaves them out, as the Damascus pact did. although they also hoped to be included in the security arrangements eventually.

Mr. Velayati also said relations between Britain and Iran could improve if the British government does nothing to "provoke" by raising the issue of the Iranian death sentence against author Salman Rushdie.

"If they do not provoke the question of Salman Rushdie, I don't think we need to have such a tense situation and tense relations," Mr. Velavati said. He said the fatwa imposed on

Mr. Rushdie by the late Ayatol-lah Ruholiah Khomeini for allegedly defaming Islam in the novel "The Satanic Verses" could not be lifted.

This is a religious position and will not change," Mr. Velavati

Rebels say they blow up Iranian oil pipelines NICOSIA (R) - Iran's opposi- 130 Revolutionary Guards in

11 Iranian oil pipelines and killed or wounded scores of Revolutionary Guards to avenge the assassination of one of its members in Pakistan.

tions Friday, the group said its fighters destroyed pipelines in the main oil producing province of Khuzestan and the western Kermanshah province Monday morn-

In Bayat region in northern Khuzestan, eight pipelines were, blown up, sending up flames which could be seen many kilometres away, the group said in a statement sent to Reuters from its Paris office.

Three pipelines were destroyed in at Naftshahr, a small oil field in Kermanshah near the border with Iraq, it said.
"In the course of these opera-

tions at least 100 million in damages were inflicted on the Khomeini regime," the exile group said, referring to Iran's late revolutionary leader, Ayatollah Rubollah Khomeini.

There was no immediate report of attacks from Iran's official media. Mujahedeen accounts of events in Iran are difficult to check. They are rarely denied by the Iranian authorities and some times receive partial confirmation

in the Tehran press. deen fighters killed or wounded Sunday.

tion Mujahideen-e-Khalq group separate attacks on two battalion natiers near Mehran Dehloran, border towns in Ilam province, and mine explosions and ambushes in nearby roads. Near Dehloran, 500 kilometres

southwest of Tehran. "2 30-In a second wave of sabotage attacks
ahead of Iran's presidential elecused by the guards for eavesdropping was destroyed and all ammunition depots were blown up," it added. Tehran sent its fighter-bombers

to hit Mujahedeen bases deep inside Iraq two weeks ago after the group blew up several oil pipelines in the southern part of Khuzestan. Iran accused its former war enemy Iraq of letting Mujahe-

deen saboteurs cross the border and attack its installations. The air raid, which caused little damage and no Mujahedeen

casualties, provoked vows of reprisal from Baghdad. Most recent Mujahedeen

attacks, including all those reported Tuesday, occurred near the Iraqi border. But the group, which maintains a tank-equipped army in Iraq, insists that they were planned and carried out by underground forces inside Iran. The Mujahedeen said the op-

crations were named after Mohammad Hassan Arbab, also known as Mohammad Khan Baluch, one of its activists who it said was shot and killed by Ira-The statement said Mujahe- nian agents on a Karachi street

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

NEWS IN BRIEF

King Hassan, U.N. envoy discuss Sahara

RABAT (R) - King Hassan of Morocco and United Nations envoy Sahabzada Yaqub-Khan Monday discussed plans to hold a referendum in the disputed Western Sahara, officials said. Details of their talks at the royal palace in Rabat were not immediately available. U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali proposed a compromise to settle the conflict in the former Spanish colony when he toured the area last week. At issue is who is eligible to vote in the referendum to decide whether the desert territory will be part of Morocco, which controls most of the area, or independent as demanded by Polisario guerrillas. Polisario wants voters limited more or less to about 74,000 people counted in a 1974 Spanish census, while Morocco wants to also include up to 100,000 refugees it says fled Western Sahara during the Spanish colonial period. At a news conference after conferring with Dr. Ghali, Bachir Mustapha Sayed, the Polisario's number two, was reported as saying the U.N. chief's new proposals were "interesting and positive." Moroccan officials have not commented on the talks and neither side has revealed the content of the new U.N. proposals.

Lebanon hands war-wrecked homes to Gulf Arabs

ALEY, Lebanon (R) - Officials handed back nearly 300 war damaged villas in Lebanon's Shouf Mountains to Gulf state ambassadors on Monday in a bid to attract visitors for the summer. Officials of the Ministry of the Displaced handed over 291 homes owned by nationals of Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates in the Shouf Mountains southeast of Beirut. A total of 574 homes in the Shouf Mountains are owned by Gulf nationals and were abandoned during Lebanon's 15 years of civil war. Many of the once-luxurious homes are gutted or badly damaged. "This is a step we dreamed about for a long time so Kuwaitis and Gulf nationals can return to Lebanon, Ambassador Ahmad Ghaith Abdallah said in the town of Aley, 12 cilometres southeast of Beirut. He said rebuilding the homes would begin soon. Aley was a summer resort and home to thousands of Guif Arabs until fighting transformed it into a shell-pocked ghost town.

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Policeman kills himself to avoid embarrassment

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Medhat Mohammad Amin has committed suicide after having dinner as a lavish restaurant at the coastal city of Alexandria, according to a press report. Amin, a policeman, was invited to the dinner by a friend who works at the restaurant. After finishing his dinner consisting of chicken, macaroni and fruit salad, Amin was shocked when his friend, who apparently changed his mind, asked him to pay the bill. Amin went to the bathroom where he pulled his gun and shot himself in the head. He died instantly, the newspaper Al Gomhuria reported in its Tuesday edition.

Belgium apologises to Britain

BRUSSELS (AP) — Belgium has formally apologised to Britain for not providing 90,000 artillery shells in early 1991 as the government in London readied for the Gulf war, the government aid Monday. Defence Minister Leo Delcroix "made the apology during a May 10-11 official visit to British Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind in London," said a Defence Ministry spokesman, confirming a report in the daily De Standaard. In early 1991, as the United States was forming an alliance of nations to oust Iraq from Kuwait, Belgium declined a British request to provide 90,000 artillery shells which it had in stock. The government of former Prime Minister Wilfried Martens said in January, 1991, it wanted to give "absolute priority to a diplomatic solution to the Gulf crisis." In the end, it contributed some \$30 million in cash towards the allied war effort against Iraq. The refusal to provide shells soured Belgo-British relations. It coincided with negotiations among the European Community states to draft a common foreign and security policy which has since been enshrined in the Maastricht Treaty on European union.

Ethiopian refugees to go home from Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — Some 23,000 Ethiopian refugees will be all some taken back to their homeland in an operation due to their homeland in an operation due to taken back to their homeland in an operation Wednesday, the Khartoum newspaper Al Sudan Al Hadith reported Tuesday. It quoted the minister for refugees, Abdul Rahman Sir Al Khatim, as saying a camp at Al Hamra inside to appropriate the second state of the second s Ethiopia was ready to receive them. There are more than a million refugees in Sudan, about 300,000 of them from Ethiopia. ಿಚ್ಚಾಗಿದ್ದ ಜಗ್ಗೆ ಇ_{ತ್ತಿಗ}

Officials deny discussing changes to law

(Continued from page 1)

sultation," he said.

to decide on whether it will con-strategy after the government fortest the elections, expected later mally decides whether it would a menting the this year, "and the movement will change the law. announce its position at the suitable time and in light of new broad agreement among Brother-

temporary law is one of principle. "issues of paramount fractions and by portance such as the elections and the (peace) negotiations." and we will resist it, but it is not the (peace) negotiations."

vet decided how we will do that,"

Even though the Brotherhood

boycott the elections if the law could be necessary. was changed. But the spokesman of the Brotherhood bloc at the House, Ibrahim Khreisat, later reiterated earlier Brotherhood

B. Special File President of the Islamic Action : the State and Front (IAF) Ishak Al Farhan also Make the decision the decision the decision that the same than the As far as we are concerned, said that the IAF, under whose the personal Parliament is the forum for con-umbrella Brotherhood candidates so the need for would run for elections, had not was on too The statement said it was still adopted a final stand on the stand te premature for the Brotherhood elections and would draw up its accentes of

Dr. Sa'id said that there was a ward administration able time and in light of new developments and the general situation."

"Our decision to reject any temporary law is one of principle."

broad agreement among product hood members that the "temporary should not be given the mandate to decide on temporary law is one of principle."

yet decided now we will do mat.

Dr. Sa'id told the Jordan Times. did not formally whether a vote was Goshe Dr. Sa'id told the Jordan Times.

He did not rule out boycotting of confidence should be taken on the Maiali government when and the elections as a possible way the Majali government when and resisting any change in the law. if an extraordinary session is consisting any change in the law. It all extraordinary states is a second state of the second states of the second st Brotherhood Deputy Abdul veneu, Dr. Salid Said. Allowed Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Rahim Al Ekour said last week general feeling among Brother Rahim Rahi Rahim Al Ekour said last week general reching many by a step that the Brotherhood would hood deputies that such a step the grad plant

reiterated earlier Brotherhood government speak about the most statements that no such decision dangerous issues to the nation," he said.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDER

OWY SHIPMEN TWO ... L'hr toire des Climat News in French French Varieties News in Hebrew Soccer Match News in English Second Half of Match The Gravy Train TRATER TIMES Fajr (5unrise) Duha Dhuhr 'As CHURCHES

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De in Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrasuncta Church Tel: 622366 Church 623541. Catholic Church Tel. 771331. Orthodox Charch Tel. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church 824328 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932. Church of the Nazurene Tel. 675691. WEATHER

Bulketin supplied by the Department of

It will be fair and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and

Min./Max. temp. 15 / 26

that killed nine people and in- attend a German university, the

Nairoukh obarmac Al Salam pharmacy. Yacoub obarmacy Shmeisani pharmacy Nairoujh pharmacy IKBID:

Jordan Valley Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 24, Aquite 32. Humidity readings: Amman 45 per cent. Aquite 23 per **USEFUL TELEPHONE**

NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

Dr. Nidai Al Hashsiri Dr. Mohammad Shuqair Dr. Yousef Sammour Dr. Shabasa Al Azech Fires pharmacy 778336 Al Ascma pharmacy 644945 637660 623672

Dr. Yahya Al Tarifi ..

EMERGENCIES Food Control Centre 637111 Civil Defence Department Civil Defence Immediate

Highway Police Traffic Police Public Security Department Hotel Complaints Price Complaints 630321 Water and Sewerage 897467 Complaints
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) Jordan Television ... Radio Jordea
Water Authority
Jordea Electricity Authority
Electric Power

RJ Flight Information 08-53200 Queen Alia Intl. Airport..... 08-53200 HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amm.... 64241/2 Jabel Amman Maternity 64241/2 Jabel Amman Maternity 64262 Auth... 1 Amman Maternity 64262 Shmeisani Hospital
University Hospital
Al-Mussher Hospital
The Islamic, Abdali
Al-Ahli, Abdali
Italian, Al-Muhajreen
Al-Rashir I Ashandal 664164/ Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50 Amal Hospital ZAROA: 1 Zarqa Covt. Hospital (07)983323 Zarqa National Hospital ... (09)900560 Ibn Sira Hospital (09)996732 Al Hássa Modery Hospital (09)99090 RM:

. 669131 . 845845

Princes Basma Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Naices Hospital

Princes Haya Hospital

(02)272275

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This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RI) information department at the Oueen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)3200-5, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) Dubal, Abu Dhabi (R.I)

...... Jeddah (RJ) Lamaca (RJ) Doha, Bahraru (RJ)

18:39 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

....... Cairo (MS) Sanaa (IY)
Sanaa (IY)
Joddah (SU)
Sharjah, Doha (GF)
Karachi, Damascus (PI)
Parrs, Damascus (AF) Vienna, Larnaca (OS)

DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Filghts (Terminal 1)

11:15 Amsterdam, New York (RJ) 29:36 Colombo

Other Flights (Terminal 2) Bcirut, Paris (AF)

9:15	Being (ME)
0:45	Beirut (ME) Dubai (EM)
2-30	Sanaa (IY)
3:00	Jeddah (SU)
4:15	Caino (MS)
4:30	Bahrain, Doha (GF) Karachi (PI)
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MARKET PRICES

Banana	,,,,,, ,,,,
Banana Adam	680 / 680
Banana (Mukammar)	620 / 620
Cabbage	440 ! 140
Cabbage	100 / 30
	100.100
	60.760
Cucumbers (xmall)	80 / 30
Economicia (Milan)	130/80
Lomon Marrow (Inc.)	
Marrow (laws)	220/420
Marrow (large)	130 / 80
Orange Carlotte	150 / 100
Potato	100/ 140
Tomato	18W 14U



before the drilling was over and the studies were complete.

"It is too early to comment.

· Jordan has no significant

out 50,000 barrels of crude oil a day from Iraq.
It produces 275 barrels a day

from two exploratory wells near

the Saudi border and has sizeable

quantities of natural gas.
One source said the recent

discovery could indicate that pressure under the thick layer of

salt "had led to oil seepages that

The find could lure back fore-

ign oil firms for more sophisticated drilling in the Dead Sea region, where the NRA recently

began a seismic study to shed

more light on the geological na-

The research is concentrating

on the Lisan area near the south-

ern tip of the sea, where an

might have produced reservoirs of possible significant commercial

Drillers strike oil

AMMAN (R) — Jordan oilmen we need at least six months to have found small amounts of establish final facts," the official

ern shore of the Dead Sea, ener- proven reserves and imports ab-

quantities.

near Dead Sea

crude oil close to the surface at an told Reuters.

By Rana Sabbagh

exploratory oil well near the east-

gy ministry sources said on Tues-

The Ministry of Energy and

Mineral Resources would not re-

leases the initial results but the

sources said the find was signifi-

cant because it showed there may

be more oil deeper down, under a

layer of salt 4,000 to 5,000 metres

"They were drilling an exploratory well in Ein Al-Homr in the

upper eastern part of the Dead Sea in mid-May when they found

crude oil after over 300 metres,"

"It was of good quality and low

Authority (NRA), are drilling

towards a target depth of 1,000

metres and will take samples

government's Natural Resources on earth.

one source told Reuters.

in sulphur," he added.



Prince

visits

Ministry.

Majali,

army unit

AMMAN (Petra) His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the

personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Tuesday met with Prime Minister Abdul

Salam Al Majali at the Prime



Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday presents have served their profession for 25 years awards to Jordan's nurses and midwives who (Petra photo)

Veteran nurses, midwives honoured at International Nursing Day event

Queen Noor Tuesday attended a ceremony honouring nurses and midwives who have served in their profession for 25 years.

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Sponsored by the Ministry of Health and the Jordan Nurses and Midwifery Union, the ceremony was held at the Royal Cultural Centre on the occasion of International Nursing Day.

Established in 1972, the Jordanian Nurses and Midwives Union poresents a total of 3,794 registered nurses and midwives

sities and nursing schools, as well profession. as from other Arab and foreign

The union is a member of the Professional Association as well as the International Council of

At the ceremony, the Queen with gifts and the union's shield; and she honoured four nurses with doctoral degrees. Queen Noor also presented a gift to the

Members of the union are him Al Samman, in recognition graduates from Jordanian univer- of his services to the nursing

> Receiving the Queen at the ceremony were Minister of Health Abdul Rahim Malhas, Secretary General of the Ministry of Health Adnan Abbas, and President of the Nurses and Midwifery Union Nazeeh Bzour.

The Queen was also received presented nurses and midwives by members of the union's council, as well as by Royal Cultural Centre Director Iyad Kattan. Accompanying the Queen to

rights activists. The Vienna conference, the

resolution adopted by the U.N. day, formed a delegation to General Assembly.
It is expected that representa-

Sources said that the meeting intends to focus on a global re-

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — German and Jorda-

nian officials Tuesday ended two

days of talks and consultations

over German-financed projects in

the Kingdom, agreeing to implement at least two technical pro-

jects this year and a financial one

and vocational training fields.

One of the technical projects is

the setting up of a national in-

formation system at the Ministry

WHAT'S

GOING

next vear.

The Arab group taking part in cided to send several officials of present complaints about Israel's National Red Crescent Society to



Prince Mohammad congratulated Prince Mohammad also visited Dr. Majali on his new post as the Fourth Royal Mechanised Dipremier and wished him and his vision and was received by its Cabinet good luck in carrying out commander and senior officers. who briefed him on the duties

The Prince later visited the Prince Mohammad Batallion and was

Cabinet forms delegation to Vienna human rights meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) - Sharif Faw- arbitrary measures against the to the U.N. Geneva headquarters occupation. will head Jordan's delegation to the Vienna human rights confer- in adhering to the international ence due to open on June 14, charter and the covenants on according to a decision taken by the Council of Ministers and announced Tuesday.

The statement said that the delegation will include a group of prominent Jordanian individuals from the public and private sec-

Informed sources said the delegation will include officials, par- cooperation agreement between liamentarians, lawyers and human Jordan and Syria and authorised

first such gathering in 25 years, is the Jordanian government. being convened in line with a

will attend, including several heads of states

view of human rights, including political and civil rights. The U.N. held the last such conference in Tehran 25 years

The conference is expected to

waz Sharaf, Jordan's ambassador Palestinians living under its

The record of various countries human rights will also be re-

Jordan-Syria cultural agreement

Meanwhile, the Council of Ministers approved an executive programme for the implementation of a cultural and scientific Jordan's ambassador to Syria to sign the programme on behalf of

The council in its session Tuesattend and participate in the work of the Yemeni-Jordanian Joint tives of all U.N. member states Committee that will discuss topics related to alternative and renewable energy due to be held in Sanaa, capital of Yemen, between June 19 and 23.

> The team will be led by Abdul Wahab Al Zoubi, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources secretary general.

The Cabinet also Tuesday dethe Youth Division of the Jordan

month. It also decided to allocate a

JD50 monthly grant to each scholarship student studying in the Russian Federation universities or other universities of the Commonwealth of Independent States as of April 1, 1993.

The total number of students on scholarship in Russia or the states of the former Soviet Union is 434 and the total sum to be offered to them will come up to JD810,000 annually.

Also according to the Cabinet, two officials from the Ministry of Transport will go to Cairo to represent Jordan at the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) meetings due to be held between June 15 and 17.

In implementation of directives issued by His Majesty King Hussein, the Cabinet also approved allocating JD 70 million to the Military Housing Fund and JD 2 million to the Civil Defence Department Housing Fund. The allocations will be financed through loans from the Housing Bank and finances from the Central Bank of Jordan and will be extended to beneficiaries from the two funds at a maximum interest rate of 4.5 per cent,

Germany agrees to fund technical.

along the way. American firm drilled an unsuc-An energy ministry official de- cessful exploratory well in the clined to comment on the find 1950s.

Family hostilities cited as motive Youth said to confess to murder of cousin

The oilmen, working for the ture of the area, the lowest point

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN -- A 20-year-old youth has confessed to the murder of a nine-year-old boy after sexually assaulting in the Russeifa area of Amman late last month and police are compiling evidence to refer the case to court, informed sources said Tuesday.

According to the sources, the youth, a first cousin of Mohannad Saleh Jamal whose decomposing body was found buried under a pile of stones in Russeifa Cemetery on May 29, is believed to have committed the brutal murder to settle a family dispute.

Prior to killing the boy by hitting him with a stone, the youth, identified only as .K.J., auso soc

the sources said.
The body was discovered four days after the boy was reported missing, but the murder was committed a few hours after he disappeared, accord-

ing to the sources. Official police sources confirmed the arrest and confession of a youth in connection with the murder, but would not reveal further details.

Relatives of the victim contacted by the Jordan Times refused comment, apparently because of considerations of family links. There was no immediate means to establish the precise nature of the "family dispute" cited as the motive; nor was any explanation as to why the sexual molestation.

According to the sources who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, the youth is a construction worker

"The youth had worked with the father of the boy for some time and it appears that the two had developed hostility

towards each other," said one

of the sources. "Apparently, he waylaid the boy on the evening of May 25 when the boy was sent out by the family to buy something and took him to the area of the cemetery," said one source.

There he hit him and then sodomised him before killing him by smashing his head with a stone. Earlier reports said that

Mohannad was out buying vegetables and was carrying 500 fils on him. The assailant left his work

site at 6 p.m. as usual and apparently found the boy wandering in the markets, the sources said. There was no sign of any

struggle at the site where the body was found — between two tombs under a pile of rocks, according to the sources, who added that the body appeared to have been dragged from a distance of up to 100 metres. Bloodstains were visible along the route, they said.

The body bore marks of a severe beating, and identifica-tion was possible only by the shirt he wore, the sources said.

The boy's underwear was pulled down to the knee, and his trousers were found nearby, according to the sources. An empty can of beer had led to suspicions that the assailant (s) could have been drunk. but, the sources said, the arrested youth had no record of drinking.

The youth was arrested on suspicion Monday, two days after the body was discovered, and he confessed to the crime shortly thereafter, the sources

the ceremony was Mrs. Abdul (3.154 nurses and 640 midwives). union's media consultant, Ibra- Salam Majali

Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Tuesday addresses a meeting of the Scouts and Girl Guides Association (Petra photo)

Princess Basma calls for boosting scouts, girl guides programmes

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Tuesaside ay stressed the importance of fordan's scout movement and called for intensifying efforts to develop scouts programmes and

activities. Addressing a general assembly meeting of the Scouts and Girl Guides Association held at the Teachers Club here, Princess' Basma stressed the need for putting more emphasis on voluntary work, public service and developing skills and capacities of scouts

and girl guides. During the meeting the general assembly discussed the association's financial and administrative reports and the planned strategy of the scouts movement until the year 2002.

The assembly also discussed the association's activities, achievements and future aspira-

Participants formed two commirtees: one technical and the

The technical committee was

other financial.

charged with examining propos-als put forward to the general assembly's meetings, and the financial committee was asked to look into means of financing the construction of headquarters for the association at Hussein Youth

Also Tuesday Princess Basma attended the graduation of the 28th batch of students from Ailoun Community College.

The Princess opened a new building and garden named after her. She also inaugurated an art and folklore exhibition at the

At the end of the celebration certificates were presented to 510 students graduating from the col-

Matthias Meyer, counsellor at the German embassy in Amman, told the Jordan Times that agree-The graduation ceremony was attended by Minister of Educament followed a general review of tion and Higher Education German-funded projects that are Khaled Al Omari, the Ajloun district governor and senior govbeing executed and also new ernment officials from Ailoun. schemes or extension to the present plans, particularly in water, agriculture, institution-building

Multidisciplinary look at Amman spurs further study of the city

By Sausan Gosheh Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - The conference "Amman: the City and Society" was successful in creating a bridge between social scientists, urban planners and ans hoping that this conference will be the start, and not the end, of other studies on the city, said organisers Tuesday in their concluding rejangari

a :awar. The significance of this conference, 200 Me 27 according to Seteney Shami, professor of anthropology at Yarmouk University, is that it is an outcome of collective work, incorporating multidisciplinary aspects.

The three-day conference, co-sponsored by CERMOC, the French Centre for Research on the Contemporary Middle East and the Department of Architecture and the Agha Khan Unit for Architecture at the University of Indian Architecture at the University of Jordan, focused its discussion Tuesday on the economy and society of Amman and the politics and policies of the city, attempting to produce a comprehensive overview of the rapidly developing urban centre.

The theme of inequality was preva-

lent throughout the first session, entitled "Economy and Society." Musa Ishteiwi, professor of sociology at the University of Jordan, spoke on class structure and inequality in

Amman, explaining that the former passed through three different phases which formed and reformed classes and blurred the distinction between The first phase, Dr. Ishteiwi said, is

the consolidation of the Jordanian state; the period when classes were formed, the existence of the state prior to the class structure allowed the former to shape the latter and set future class development, he added.
The following two phases, one between 1948 and 1967 and the other after 1968, had no effect on the sizes of the upper, middle and working classes, but significantly affected their composition, Dr. Ishteiwi main-

. -

First Merchants, then business owners emerged as members of the upper class and superceded its older members such as the bureaucrats and government and military officials, he said. In addition, Dr. Ishteiwi conninued, the rise of the professional middle class at the expense of the

became evident.

The wide gap between the upper class and the working class, compos-ing nine per cent and 60 per cent of the society, indicates the economic inequality of Amman, Dr. Ishteiwi

bureaucratic middle class, recently

Maintaining the theme of inequality, Mary Kawar, professor of economics at London University, spoke on

the integration of young women in the labour force of Amman.

Young, single, urban women are the women most found in labour force, Dr. Kawar said. Although female labour force par-

ticipation has been consistently low, a breakdown by age reveals that there is a disproportionate participation of women between the ages of 20 and 29, she added.
Although holding higher education

certificates and supplying a more di-versified labour force, women have a smaller chance of becoming employed, Dr. Kawar said. Unemployant among women is double than that among men, she added.

The disproportionate weight of Amman in terms of Jordanian industry when compared to the rest of the country was the subject of the study by Rozenne Hommery of CERMOC. In 1990, she said, studies estimated

that 92.5 per cent of Jordanian industries were located in Amman, and thus a large percentage of the labour force was also present in the capital...
In spite of policies aimed at shifting investment out of Amman, the city continues to attract investors because of its large population, its adequate transportation system and being the

commercial and banking centre of the, But the importance of the industrial sector's presence in Amman was indirectly undermined by Reiner

Biegel, a faculty member at the Arts and Humanities Department at the University of Fez, who described Amman as a "rentier state" that periodically receives extensive, external financial aid.

" All "rents," according to Dr. Reiner, were distributed and spent in the capital mainly in housing and trade, which created a rapid spacial and demographic growth and caused extreme centrality.

The shift of the commercial and

banking sector from eastern Amman to the western Amman also contributed to the segregation of the city, The second session, entitled "poli-

tics and policies in Amman," addres-sed the lands available for housing, contested land in east Amman, and the position of Palestinian refugee camps as enclaves or districts in the Munther Al Azmi, professor of architecture at the University of Jor-

dan, criticised the local authorities for supplying new plots of land without taking into consideration development plans for the entire city. He particularly emphasised the lack of affordable land for low-income housing and the abundancy of land for the high-income bracket, calling on the planners to correct the present imba-Blandine Destramau of Urbama,

Urbanisation of the Arab World, spoke on the identity of the two refugee camps surrounding Amman, stressing that they crystallise the double territorial identification of Palesti-

She portrayed the difficulty of describing the camps as either quarters of Amman or enclaves within the city, but added that the refugee camps can be considered enclaves because their residents look at their situation as temporary and are waiting to return to their land. Yet, she added, when studying their economic integration within the city, these camps may be described as quarters.

Proceedings of the conference are

expected to be published later, orga-

ON The following listings are com-piled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers

are advised to verify the listed time and place with the con-cerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

Art exhibition by Lebanese artist Shukrallah Fatouh at the Royal Cultural Centre. ★ Exhibition of paintings by artists Nawal Kattan and Dodi

Centre. Exhibition of works by more than 40 plastic artists from Iraq at Alia Art Gallery.

Tabbaa at the French Cultural

Photography exhibition entitled "Scenes from Palestine" at the Royal Cultural Centre. Art exhibition by Marianne

FILMS

Naerobout at the British Coun-

🛱 Feature film entitled "The Big Red One" at 6 p.m. at the American Centre (110 mi-

on Rock" at 7 p.m. at the British Council (90 min.) ★ English-subtitled German film entitled "Einervon Uns

Beideng" at 8 p.m. at the

Goethe Institute (1974, 106

* Feature film entitled "Bright-

of Planning to provide data to different government department, said Mr. Meyer.

financial schemes at DM22m

The scheme which is being initiated this year will take three years to complete, and Germany will provide DM1 million annually to cover the cost, he said. Mr. Meyer also said Germany was providing expertise, equip-

ment and training towards implementing the scheme. The other technical project entails producing vegetable seeds to meet local needs with possible

Meyer continued. He said the two-year project, which is being initiated this year, will cost DM 1 million annually which will be paid by the German government.

surpluses for export later, Mr.

Again the Germans will be providing expertise, equipment and training, added Mr. Meyer. Referring to the financial project, Mr. Meyer said that Germany would be supplying at least DM22 million to finance one of the three major water supply projects for the Amman area. He said actual work on the project is due next year, but

here covered preparations for its implementation. Although the two sides signed

a protocol on covering these projects Tuesday, a delegation of senior German officials will arrive here in November for the formal signing, Mr. Meyer said. These agreements fall within

the framework of a German government assistance programme to Jordan totalling around DM50 million, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra. Mr. Meyer said the fivemember German team led by

Gerd Robert Liptau represents

the German Foreign Ministry,

the German Bank for Recon-

struction and Development (KFW), the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) as well as the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation. Part of the team is leaving Amman Wednesday for the West Bank to inspect German-funded

projects in the occupied Arab

lands and the rest will return to

The protocol was signed by Mr. Liptau and Secretary General of the Ministry of Planning Safwan







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Human rights hinge on nothing else

IN A FEW days' time, a high level Jordanian. delegation will head for Vienna to attend the World Conference on Fluman Rights. Until that point in time, there appears to be no coherent Jordanian perspective regarding the contentious issues that appear to divide the international community along developed and developing lines. With the Western world insisting on at least maintaining the existing consensus that distinguishes between basic human rights on the one hand and economic, social and cultural rights on the other, the poor nations of the world are seeking to exploit the Vienna platform to reshuffle the human rights cards in favour of the right to development and the cultural considerations of different civilisations.

Jordan happens to be in a unique position of belonging to both camps. In one sense, the country is still a member of the developing world and, in another, it has joined the democratic club after launching a workable pluralistic democracy in 1989. With such mixed yet complementary credentials, the official and non-official Jordanian delegations to the Vienna meeting can perform the distinguished role of mediating between the seemingly diametrically opposed groups of states. This should not be too difficult in view of the fact that there is some merit in both perspectives.

On the one hand, the Vienna gathering should not serve to turn the clock back on basic human rights. There is fear now that many countries with dismal human rights record would use the occasion and the argumentations of the poor nations of the world to justify their poor human rights record especially with regard to the most fundamental among them. This is a justifiable fear and the Jordanian delegation must strive to support the proposition that respect of basic human rights need not and must not depend on the level of economic development or the peculiar cultural situations of each and every country.

To think otherwise would be tantamount to rendering the observance of human rights subject to the interpretation of each and every country. There must be a minimum international standard on human rights that all nations, big or small, rich or poor, religious or not, must comply with. The universality of human rights is already well enshrined in the United Nations jurisprudence developed over the past three decades. The Vienna meeting must not be allowed to disturb this painstakingly developed international consensus. Otherwise, the ideals and norms of human rights as reflected in various legally-binding instruments and

treaties would be disturbed. Still, the relevancy and impact of economic consideration on human rights as a whole cannot be underestimated. There are many civil and political rights that cannot be expected to be implemented without a minimum level of economic development. This posture deserves to be protected also by our teams

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

to the world conference.

COMMENTING ON a statement by the Information Minister about Jordan's Middle East stand, Al Ra'i daily Tuesday said the Kingdom had consistently made its position clear and has nothing to hide. Our position vis-a-vis regional local or pan-Arab issues needs no further clamfication since our country has never adopted or supported stands that could be interpreted as compromising the national stand, said the daily. The minister of information's statement, totally denying rumours about a separate deal between Israel and Jordan, came as another proof of this country's firm and unrelenting position with regard to the Palestine question and the rights of the Palestinian people, continued the daily. Jordan, said the paper, cannot cede an iota of Arab rights, will not accept a separate deal and will remain committed to pan-Arab and collective action with regard to national rights, said the paper. It said Jordan is not obliged to reassert its position with regard to the Palestine issue, but the minister's statement in this respect came to further clarify the Kingdom's position for those who could still be ignorant of the facts and to refute all the allegations and false rumours spread around by hostile forces.

AL DUSTOUR daily dwelt on the outcome of a meeting in Amman by the foreign ministers of Arab countries involved in the peace process. The toreign ministers have now responded favourably to an invitation to take part in the 10th round of talks. to open in Washington on June 15, and by so doing they have reaffirmed the Arab World's clear position with regard to peace, underlining the Arabs' total commitment to peace despite the obstacles laid by the Israelis in its path, said the paper. This joint stand, on the part of the Arab countries, to pursue all avenues towards reaching peace means that the Arabs are determined to attain this goal, but at the same time cannot cede any of the national rights, said the daily. It said that the foreign ministers' final statement reaffirmed the role of the co-sponsors of the peace process, stressing the importance of their intervention in the coming stages to ensure and facilitate a peaceful settlement that would bring about a lasting peace. The short period of time separating us from the date of the 10th round of negotiations is of vital importance for the Arab diplomacy, said the paper. During this period, it said, the Arab diplomats should urge the co-sponsors to give more assurances and commit themselves to working for achieving a settlement.

Economic Forum

By Dr. Abdalla Malki

More than one idea

This time I have failed in finding an idea good enough for today's column. I grappled with the idea of highlighting the political costs of some of our purported economic "victories", such as rescheduling our maturing external loans, which will surely turn into losing ventures by national profitability standards. But I thought our foreign readers must not be bothered with such domestic affairs. The notion of assessing the indirect economic costs of these "victories" seemed very plausible. Such costs refer mainly to our soaring imports of all kinds of goods, luxuries and essentials alike, consequential on the open-door import policy decreed in the IMF-sponsored economic adjustment programme. The theme seemed very healthy but not grand enough to fill the

Another healthy-looking idea related to the economic content or potential of the possibly imminent political developments connected with the peace process. I thought that the best hope for Jordan to solve its latent and visible economic problems in a way that did not supplant social disequilibria with economic ones and did not create national frictions was to have a breakthrough in the ongoing peace negotiations. If that happened, the so-called peace dividend would enable Jordan to address those problems without having to go on with the nation-dividing policy of more and more taxes and fees. In this context, the peace process would look like much of an economic issue. Heightened economic pressure on Jordan, like the one bound to emerge from now on constantly from the need for external debt rescheduling, would be easily transformed into political end-products. The obssession of economists with blunt materialistic standards shamelessly blinds them to the noble social, humanitarian and political ideals.

At this point, I had noticed that historically, political developments propelled the Jordanian economy and even concluded that political disasters were actually belated economic blessings. True, the consecutive events of 1948, 1967, 1973 and lastly the 1990 Gulf war were national political and military disasters but they transformed the economy of Jordan. First, they posed some sort of historic challenges which were duly responded to by that economy. Second, they brought in a lot of foreign aid and capital which were instrumental in helping the Jordanian economy to proceed along the path of progress

But then one has to give due credit to the potentialities and capabilities of the Jordanians themselves who accommodated the historic swings and harnessed them in the interests of their economy. This is most evident in the case of the Gulf war which has been transformed from a national economic tragedy into a very small economic miracle. But here, one can easily miss the lesson of history. Jordan has an inherent political vitality; it is too precious a political asset to be left to crumble on economic

Another candidate was the overemphasis put by our current economic policy on checking the fiscal deficit. Such emphasis is not necessarily detrimental unless it takes place at the expense of other basic objectives. In the context of external indebtedness, the trade gap is much more important. The unchecked growth of imports under the impact of free trade can very well outweigh any positive achievements on the fiscal front. Indeed, stressing the fiscal targets and trying to achieve them through higher taxes and less subsidies at a time of high costs of living and soaring unemployment rates has already seeded social discord in the Jordanian society and fanned hostility between the economic

policy and the private sector.

Now, how does today's column fare in comparison with past

Children, the losers in Russia's new capitalist world

MOSCOW - "I've got no dad. and my mummy drinks...She's always hitting me, and I run away from her," said the little girl matter-of-factly.

Sashka, a shy, pretty six-year-old with a fringe of mousy hair, is sitting on the knee of a care worker at the Moscow Police detention centre for children who are battered, abandoned or have run away from home.

of parental cruelty are truants, young offenders, child thieves and even prostitutes as young as 12. Police bring in 30 to 50 youngsters a day.

Some, like Sashka, will be taken away from their parents and placed in orphanages. Most be sent back home.

They bring us kids from three of 18 who for some reason have left home. Either they've been left destitute or abandoned by their parents with nowhere to live and no adult care, or they've committed some crime and require immediate detention," said Deputy Director Pyotr Layenko.

tute child, establish where he lives and send him home."

market has brought hard times to millions of families and made children especially vulnerable.

adolescents committed suicide in 1992, most of them victims of cruelty in the home. About 5,000 homeless children were picked up on the streets of Moscow alone. The Police centre houses about 300 children at any one time, at least one and a half times as many as in Soviet times. About 30 are

"They come from broken families or those where the parents are alcoholics." Mr.

of pre-school age, including several who were simply aban-

They abandon them in train stations, or they leave them behind at home and go off somewhere...the child wants to eat and no one pays him any attention."

ary home to children from all over the former Soviet Union. including Caucasians and Central Asians who speak little or no run away from home or enjoy the "romance of travel," Mr. Layenko said.

separate four-storey white con-crete blocks surrounded by high walls. The population fluctuates constantly as new children arrive and others leave.

Three-fifths have broken the

ease, but most begin about 14. Before it was about 16 or 17, but nowadays they're taking up the oldest profession at a younger age," said the deputy director.

illnesses like measles and rubella, diphtheria is increasingly freparty has risen from a banned quent. Most of the children have group to the no. 2 political force their heads shaved to get rid of

But despite the grim background to its work, the centre is more like a school than a prison, and the staff appear caring and concerned. The children get up at eight

o'clock and fill their day with craftwork, sports and films as well as counselling and traditional schoolwork.

school. Letters to parents,

touchingly pathetic, are displaye, in on the wall of one classroom: "Dear mummy, I will never have run away again and never hung you...mummy, I will try to com

Mr. Layenko has 150 stal at 150 stal back as soon as I can. working directly with the chimore. There is only one psyche and a logist for the logist for the entire centre. I see see classes, small children like Sashk

sit alongside teenaged girls.

Alexandra, 17, has been all brought here for the second river. orought here for the second time of the says she quarrelled with he was nother and stepfather last year and ran away from her home is the says of the She came to the capital 135 "hang out" with friends but have twice been detained by police who stopped her in the metro

Tanya, also 17, ran away from the home near St. Bassander without proper documents. her home near St. Petersburg
"My mother drinks the whol
time. She says I don't do anythin
and I should be out working," sh

Psychologist Tatyana Orekho va said both girls would probabl be sent back home, while Sashk would go to a children's hon because her mother was bein

stripped of parental rights. But this sanction requires lon bureaucratic procedures and it some cases the centre is oblige by law to hand back children to parents who have abused them

"According to one ? medical expert, some 2,000 children and adolescents committed suicide in 1992. Most of them victims of cruelty in the home. About 5,000 homeless children were picked up on the streets of Moscow alone."

"Until the mother and fathe are deprived of parental rights they can take back their child a any moment and no one can tak it from them without a cour decision," Ms. Orekhova said. Most of the runaways, she said

escape as a protest reaction -"they can't solve their problems so they just run away." Many ar stunted physical growth.

Ms. Orekhova acknowledge shortcomings in the system Many children discharged fron the centre are never heard from again — they may go home, rui away again and end up in similainstitutions elsewhere.

But a depressing number comback here — sometimes as man as five or six times, according to Mr. Layenko. "It happens ver often. Some don't want to leave p Huntings: they say they prefer it here."

He says the present situation in the says the He says the present account AIR Signature far worse than when he first came the same to work at the centre in the same is a same to work at the centre in the same is a same to be said to

There were fewer children, up to 200 maximum. The children in the demand tional sense and less degenerated to the control

sexually...now these problem: Milets of given increased and intensified. Main between the blames the deterioration of the different terms. the worsening social and econo mic situation in the country and the civil wars raging in several water the civil wars raging in several water that we parts of the former Soviet Union. parts of the former Soviet Comon The government, says Mr. To have the government, says Mr. To have the government, says Mr. To have the says h

Layenko, has insummered to accept the sources to address the problems. The sources to address the problems. The sources to address the problems. The source that the source th capitalism. Of course, under the course capitalism. capitalism. Or course, under the constitution socialism there were certain and comment is minuses—quite a lot of them— a physical and constitution of the constitution and we decided we didn't want to live like that. But there were more social programmes, and



M. KAHIL IN SOUTH IRELAND

Gloom deepens in Belgrade as West gives up and Milosevic grows stronger

By Alison Smale

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia -Serbia has moved closer to dictatorship as a newly confident President Slobodan Milosevic cracks down on what is left of democracy in a state plunging into economic and social chaos.

The West, which considers the Serbian president the chief instigator of warfare in Croatia and Bosnia, has had a big hand in strengthening him.

It took him seriously when he switched tactics under intense diplomatic and economic pressure this spring and sought a new role as peacemaker in Bosnia. But when he was unable to deliver, the West nevertheless withdrew the threat of military intervention to end 14 months of war in

That gave Mr. Milosevic room to settle scores at home Although the worst violence in Belgrade in two years resulted. Mr. Milosevic appears able to remain securely in power.

Mr. Milosevic needed only 48 hours last week to oust the more moderate nationalist. Dobrica Cosic, as Yugoslav president and to hit hard at the democratic opposition, whose leader Vuk Drasković was arrested and

Authorities then threatened to ban Mr. Draskovic's Serbian renewal movement, the only significant opposition.

A massive show of police force in Belgrade to quell protests last Tuesday was intended to choke social unrest as Serbs grapple with inflation. At more than 10 per cent a day, inflation makes even food an expensive treat for

"Several weeks ago, the West decided to play the Milosevic card, and Milosevic is now using its confusion to clear up his outstanding business here," the Belgrade weekly Nin concluded.

'The West acts as if it is drugged by Milosevic." Mr. Draskovic said just hours before last Tuesday's demonstration and his

He noted scathingly of Mr.



Slobodan Milosevic

Milosevic's supposed conversion to peacemaker: "You cannot turn Al Capone into Mahatma Gandhi overnicht.

The Serbian strongman, whose political creed is solely to maintain his own power, has forged a new alliance with extreme nationalist Vojislav Seselj, who was branded a war criminal by the West because his paramilitary units have committed some of the worst atrocities in the wars in Croatia and Bosnia.

The Milosevic-Seselj alliance controls all crucial levers of power: the Yugoslav Armed Forces, a massive security apparatus of

70,000 police and 70 per cent of seats in parliament,

The regime's brutality was shown in its treatment of Mr. Draskovic. The opposition leader and his wife were beaten by police, denied access to their lawyer or doctors, and detained without charge.

That this could happen even to well-known figure with good contacts abroad signaled that ordinary Serbs should not even dream of protesting their miserable daily lives.

Regardless, apathy is immense. Outside Belgrade, there is little or no access to any opposition challenge the all-powerful Beigrade TV and its pro-Milosevic propaganda. Even in the capital, the worries

of daily life grind so greatly on ordinary people that there is little energy for protest. And nationalism remains a potent force. Mr. Seselj's radical

in Serbia within two years, thanks to Mr. Milosevic's support. Mr. Seselj advocates continued war in Bosnia and the creation of a "greater Serbia." He calls all Serbs who think differently traitors to the national cause and

brags of punishing them one day. As economic woes mount, exacerbated by tough U.N. sanctions for Serbia's support of war in Bosnia, Mr. Seselj's brand of right-wing populism can attract at least as much popular support as the weak and divided democratic

As in Weimar Germany, peo-ple cut off from the world and with little to lose will turn in on themselves, battling it out on the streets and thus making a mockery of the nationalists' avowed goal of uniting all Serbs in one

Last week's protests revealed the desperation that will fuel such One protester attacked a heavi-

ly armed policeman with his bare hands. He seemed impervious to the baton blows that followed, as if in a trance.

As police went wild in their show of force, another Serb man wailed, "Why? why?" then pummelled a policeman with his fists, repeating incessantly the amount of his salary - equivalent to about \$4 a month. Stojan Cerovic, chief commen-

tator for the independent weekly Vreme, predicted violence as soon as the West abandoned both the threat of intervention and the Vance-Owen plan for Bosnia,

"Soon, we will find ourselves in quarantine," Mr. Cerovic wrote. if we cannot fight somebody else, we will have to start fighting among each other... In Serbia the scene is set for the final act."

By Mark Trevelyan

Living here alongside victims

Our job is to help that desti-

Russia's struggle to bury communism and build a new free

According to one medical ex-pert some 2,000 children and

The centre provides a tempor-

Boys and girls are segregated in

law in some way — the boys mostly stealing, the girls frequently engaged in prostitution. "Lately they've been getting much youunger. We get 12 and 13 year-old girls with venereal dis-

As well as routine children's

Examples of their handiwork are mounted on the walls of corridors, as in any other Russian

they were closer to the people

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A luxurious and fantastic world of exuberant colours

By Ica Wahbeh Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - A world of fantastic hiry tales and bold, vivid colours make up the paintings of Marianne Naerebout, a Dutch artist who in 1985 left the Netherlands for the Middle East where she now

The unique style that takes the viewer into the colourful realm of fantasy or nature is striking as much as the vigorous colours the artist generously uses.

Big-sized panels of canvas are brushed over the thick layers of colours left whimsically midstroke by a temperamental artist.

The reds, blacks, blues, greens and yellows are uncompromisingly just that; no intermediate, diluted, pale shades can substitute, in most canvases, the strong basics that make up the artist's 13\ from perception of reality.

And no, it is not a pragmatic, cool reality she reproduces. It is one of happy creatures and winds and gales, rain or snow myriads of flowers, one of marve- drops play havoc with everything lous, carefree, bubbly imagination so typical of children, one that refuses to use the "normally" accepted norms of art.

drops play havoc with everything in their path.

Or they recreate the nether world of lands stolen from the sea, the artist's motherland, in

DUTCH PAINTINGS

The tubes' colours flow freely over contours to create new ones, incoherent patterns or festoons cakes are decorated with; it is as if an angry child had decided he did not like his work after all and chose to scribble all over it.

And all this splotching gives life to the paintings, creates movement and depth to the otherwise not so elaborate preoccupation with perspective and propor-

In case of the abstract paintings, the daubs of colours may create a tormented nature, where

"Dutch landscape". And finally they can, oddly, convey serenity and peace of mind, in two paintings where "unlikely" colours like pink and

The floral and zoomorph acrylics, where an amalgamation of vegetation and animals reigns supreme, challenge the imagination and subtly awaken the child

in the viewer.

Deep sea life, where playful fish frolic next to eels. octopuses, otters, star and jelly fish, does not exclude flowers and plants,

not necessarily aquatic, to transport one in the world of Disney's mermaid.

Colours are brightly contrasting, turquoise stands next to red, black by yellow, blue by green and purple by dust pink.

It is a fascinating world, tempting to be joined and enjoyed. An uncoiling snake is the main character of a wise painting where flowers (tulips, violets?) are taking a corner and cluster together to gossip about the

In most paintings, yellow, gold or black lines, coming straight from the paint tube, confine and define shapes, conferring a cloisonné quality to the paintings.

Exuding life and love of life, Ms. Naerebout's works can be seen at the British Council until June 14, 1993. You might find the panel arrangement a bit cumbersome and in the way, but perhaps the size of the display room is to



Nowhere to turn for tired Asian workers

By Sonya Hepinstall Reuter

BANGKOK — Many of the workers who have fuelled Asia's economic miracle are finding there's nowhere to turn to secure a piece of that miracle in their workplaces.

Government corruption, employers' callousness and ignorance among the workers them-selves mean that for many of Asia's labouring masses, the appalling conditions that have given rise to some of the world's worst industrial disasters are likely to stay for some time.

"Everybody's always worried about will we be able to compete with Indonesia, with southern China, with Vietnam'," said one foreign labour expert in Bangkok. "There's no money spent on infrastructure, human or other-

He was talking about Thailand, where poor safety standards con-tributed to the high death toll in the deadliest factory fire in his-tory last month, but he could have been speaking of other nations around Asia.

In most of these countries, several of which are hard-pressed to keep social standards in line with double-digit growth, basic standards do exist for fire safety, protection against industrial hazards, maximum working hours and minimum working

But enforcing them is just not a priority, even for the workers

In the Philippines, laws to safeguard workers' health are violated especially by small factories scared by the extra costs.

"Safety precautions do not merit the attention of management and workers until an accident occurs," said Homer Punzalan, spokesman for the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, the country's biggest

This will not change until workers become more aware of the standards they have a right to demand, he said. Experts in Thailand agree.

"Ask the unions, are they concerned about safety measures?" asked Chira Hongladaron, executive director at the Human Resource Institute at Thammasat University in Bangkok.

"They're more interested in the minimum wage As for corporations, the atti-

tude of many towards safety measures in these low-skilled industries is that it is just an additional

"They still consider them (workers) to be unknown, unimportant, robotic parts that can be replaced," Mr. Chira said. At least 188 workers, most of

them women, died when Kader Industrial (Thailand) Co. Ltd's toy factory collapsed soon after a fire started on the first floor.

Workers say there were no fire extinguishers or fire escapes in the building, and safety measures had not been explained to them.

Police say the building itself was substandard, which was why it collapsed quickly, leading to the high loss of life. In this case, as in others, experts believe the insidious hand of corruption has played a major role.

Factory inspectors from India to Thailand are believed to turn a blind eye to safety standards in return for bribes from companies or managers who do not want to endanger their competitive edge with spending on expensive safety

are in charge of safety inspections, but union sources say officials usually inform employers ahead of the check.

South Korea's new president, Kim Young-Sam, is only now trying to tackle the corruption that labour analysts suspect has allowed officials to collect kick-

backs from employers for years. A big cause is that ministries involved are often understaffed and underpaid.

India's government says it is not in a position to maintain safety standards and provide adequate housing for workers despite having a central Labour Ministry and a labour ministry in

each state. "We do the best we can with our limited resources," said Labour Minister Purno Sangma. Thai officials complain that people do not want to work as safety inspectors in the govern-

ment when they could earn much

enough officials to implement

In most cases, labour experts and workers agree the laws are adequate, but they need to be

taken seriously. In India's case, child labour is common despite a legal working age of between 14 and 58, strong unions and laws that are said to be generally pro-labour.

One reason could be a lack of a coordinated approach to enforcing the laws. In India each major industry has its own enforcement agency, some controlled by the central government and some by the various states.

But the main block to improved conditions is overall poverty and ignorance — workers in many of these countries may just have to suffer until their economies develop further.

Many hope the disaster at Kader will provide the impetus to paying more attention to the issue, in Thailand at least.

more as an engineer in the private "To some extent (this) is the In Jakarta, labour activists say time now for people to reflect on that although there are a number what development is for, and of laws to protect workers, the realise that it is for human manpower ministry does not have beings," said Thammasat's Chira.



Diligent Asian labourers, working in appalling conditions, have fuelled Asia's economic miracle (File photo)

Clash of civilisations

The West against the rest

By Samuel P. Huntington

WORLD POLITICS is entering a new phase in which the fundamental source of conflict will be neither ideological nor economic. The great divisions among mankind and the dominating source of conflict will be cultural. The principal conflicts of global politics will occur between naions and groups of different civisations. The clash of civilisations

will dominate global politics. During the cold war, the world was divided into the first, second and third worlds. Those divisions are no longer relevant. It is far more meaningful to group countries not in terms of their political or economic systems or their level of economic development but in terms of their culture and civilisa-

A civilisation is the highest cultural grouping of people and the broadest level of cultural identity people have short of that which distinguishes humans from

other species.
Civilisations obviously blend and overlap and may include sub-civilisations. Western civilisation has two major variants, European and North American, and Islam has its Arab, Turkic and Malay subdivisions. But while the lines between them are seldom sharp, civilisations are real. They rise and fall; they divide and merge. And as any student of history knows, civilisations disappear.

Westerners tend to think of nation-states as the principle actors in global affairs. They have been that for only a few centuries. The broader reaches of history have been the history of civilisations. It is to this pattern that the world returns. Civilisation identity will be in-

creasingly important and the world will be shaped in large measure by the interactions among seven or eight major civilisations. These include the Western, Confucian, Japanese, Islamic, Hindu, Slavic-Orthodox, Latin American and possibly African civilisations. The most important and bloody conflicts will occur along the borders

stparating these cultures. The

fault lines between civilisations will be the battle lines of the

Why? First, differences among civilisations are basic, involving history, language, culture, tradition and, most importantly, religion. Different civilisations have different views on the relations between God and man, the citizen and the state, parents and children, liberty and authority, equality and hierarchy. These differences are the product of centuries. They will not soon dis-

Second, the world is becoming smaller. The interactions between peoples of different civilisations are increasing. These in-teractions intensify civilisation consciousness: awareness of differences between civilisations and commonalities within civilisations. For example, Americans react far more negatively to Japanese investment than to larger investments from Canada and European countries.

Third, economic and social changes are separating people from long-standing local identi-ties. In much of the world, religion has moved in to fill this gap, often in the form of movements labeled fundamentalist. Such movements are found in Western Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam. The "unsecularisation of the world," the social George Weigel has re-marked, "is one of the dominant social facts of life in the late 20th

Fourth, the growth of civilisation consciousness is enhanced by the fact that at the moment that the West is at the peak of its power a return-to-the-roots phenomenon is occurring among non-Western civilisations - the "Asianisation" in Japan, the end of the Nehru legacy and the "Hinduisation" of India, the failure of western ideas of socialism and nationalism and, hence, the re-Islamisation" of the Middle East, and now a debate over Westernisation versus Russianisation in Boris Yeltsin's

More importantly, the efforts of the West to promote its values of democracy and liberalism as universal values, to maintain its military predominance and to advance its economic interests engender countering responses

from other civilisations. The central axis of world politics is likely to be the conflict between "the West and the rest". and the responses of non-Western civilisations to Western power and values. The most prominent example of anti-Western cooperation is the connection between Confucian and Islamic states that are challenging Western values and power.

Fifth, cultural characteristics and differences are less mutable and hence less easily compromised and resolved than political and economic ones. In the former Soviet Union, communists can become democrats, the rich can become poor and the poor rich, but Russians cannot become Estonians. A person can be half-French and half-Arab and even a citizen of two countries. It is more difficult to be half Catholic and half Muslim.

Finally, economic regionalism is increasing. Successful economic regionalism will reinforce civilisation consciousness. On the other hand, economic regionalism may succeed only when it is rooted in a common civilisation. The European Community rests on the shared foundation of European culture and Western Christianity. Japan, in contrast, faces difficulties in creating a comparable economic entity in East Asia because it is a society and civilisation unique to itself.

As the ideological division of

Europe has disappeared, the cultural division of Europe between Western Christianity and Orthodox Christianity and Islam has reemerged. Conflict along the fault line between Western and Islamic civilisations has been going on for 1,300 years. This centuries-old military interaction is unlikely to decline. Historically, the other great antagonistic interaction of Arab Islamic civilisation has been with the pagan, animist and now, increasingly, Christian black peoples to the south. On the northern border of Islam, conflict has increasingly erupted between Orthodox and

Muslim peoples, including the carnage of Bosnia and Sarajevo, the simmering violence between Serbs and Albanians, the tenuous relations between Bulgarians and their Turkish minority, the violence between Ossetians and Ingush, the unremitting slaughter of each other by Armenians and Azeris and the tense relations between Russians and Muslims in Central Asia. The historic clash between

Muslims and Hindus in the subcontinent manifests itself not only in the rivalry between Pakistan and India but also in intensifying religious strife in India between increasingly militant Hindu groups and the substantial Musim minority. Groups or states belonging to.

one civilisation that become involved in war with people from a different civilisation naturally try to rally support from other members of their own civilisation. Decreasingly able to mobilise support and form coalitions on the basis of ideology, governments and groups will increasingly attempt to mobilise support by appealing to common religion and civilisation identity. As the conflicts in the Gulf, the Caucasus and Bosnia continued, the positions of nations and the cleavages between them increasingly were along civilisational lines. Populist politicians, religious leaders and the media have found it a potent means of arousing mass support and of pressuring hesitant governments. In the coming years, the local conflicts most likely to escalate into major wars will be those, as in Bosnia and the Caucasus, along the fault lines between civilisations. The next world war, if there is one,

will be a war, between civilisa-If these hypotheses are plausible, it is necessary to consider their implications for Western policy. These implications should be divided between short-term advantage and long-term accommodation. In the short term, it is clearly in the interest of the West to promote greater cooperation and unity in its own civilisation, particularly between its European and North American components; to incorporate into the

West those societies in Eastern Europe and Latin America whose cultures are close to those of the West; to maintain close relations with Russia and Japan; to support in other civilisations groups sympathetic to Western values and interests; and to strengthen international institutions that reflect and legitimate Western interests and values. The West must also limit the expansion of the military strength of potentially hostile civilisations, principally Confucian and Islamic civilisations, and exploit differences and conflicts among Confucian and Islamic states. This will require a moderation in the reduction of Western military capabilities, and, in particular, the maintenance of American military superiority in East and Southwest Asia.

In the longer term, other measures would be called for. Western civilisation is modern. Non-Western civilisations have attempted to become modern without becoming Western. To date, only Japan has fully succeeded in this quest. Non-Western civilisations will continue to attempt to acquire the wealth, technology, skills, machines and weapons that are part of being modern. They will attempt to reconcile this modernity with their traditional culture and values. Their economic and military strength relative to the West will increase.

Hence, the West will increasingly have to accommodate to these non-Western modern civilisations, whose power approaches that of the West but whose values and interests differ significantly from those of the West. This will require the West to develop a much more profound understanding of the basic religious and philosophical assumptions underlying other civilisations and the ways in which people in those civilisations see their interests. It will require an effort to identify elements of commonality among Western and other civilisations. For the relevant future, there will be no universal civilisation but instead a world of different civilisations, each of which will have to learn to coexist with others - The New

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Saudis call for firmer oil prices as OPEC meets

GENEVA (R) — Saudi Arabia. the world's biggest oil producer. put its muscle behind a call for higher prices Tuesday and urged its OPEC colleagues to abide by the group's output quotas as the best way for them all to earn

Strategy talks got under way Tuesday morning to set production levels for July through September. Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer told reporters he was not satisfied with weak oil prices languishing 3 a barrel below OPEC's elusive 21 target.

"They should be better," Nazer said, linking low prices to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries members' lax discipline in living up to their

allocated pumping quotas.

Independent analysts estimate OPEC produced around 600,000 barrels per day (BPD) more in May than the 23.6 million bpd ceiling it assigned itself for the second quarter, helping keep prices under pressure in an amply supplied market.

Such leakage must end if OPEC is serious about bumping prices higher, and the Saudis have been turning up the heat on other producers to live by the

rules, delegate sources say.
"We are going to insist on strict (quota) adherence," Nazer stressed to reporters, although he

declined to say what new produc-tion ceiling he would like to see the group agree.

Traditional pricing hawks Iran. Libya and Algeria have been pushing for the group to keep their production ceiling unchanged at 23.6 million even though demand for OPEC oil is expected to rise slightly in the third quarter.

"All I can say is demand is not very high and we need to be careful about the (third) quarter. so it is better if anyone has anything to say or wants more, to talk in the fourth quarter," Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh told reporters as he arrived for the talks.

This was a direct reference to Kuwait, which demands a quota increase starting in July as OPEC promised the emirate at a meeting in February. It made the pledge to lure Kuwait back into the quota system, from which it was executed after retreating Iraai troops torched its oil fields in he 1991 Gulf war.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister Ali Ahmad Al Baghli said he was ready to discuss the emirate's position. "We are always flexible and we shall remain flexible," he

But he added that "we are expecting the best from this meeting," and sources close to

Kuwait's delegation said the demand for a bigger quota remained on the table.

'The ball is in the others' court. Kuwait will see what they

propose," one source said. Nigeria also pressed for special treatment in boosting its quota, pointing out its economy was in dire straits.

"We will be looking for at least 100,000 bpd more," Nigerian Oil Minister Philip Asiodu said, referring to his country's current quota of nearly 1.8 million BPD. "I believe we will emerge with a satisfactory conclusion," he

Outgoing OPEC President Alirio Parra called in a keynote speech for a ceiling that would provide for "a reasonable recovery" in prices.

He gently chided the group for busting their quotas, saying OPEC was plagued by members' ignoring their own decisions. 'In order to capture OPEC's crecibility, we must continue to

make strong efforts in the direction of compliance," he said. Gabonese Oil Minister Jean Ping succeeded Parra as president. Ping became his country's oil minister in 1990 and arrived in OPEC with a background in international diplomacy after being president of the UNESCO African Group in the 1980s.

Dollar dives latest depths in fall against yen

The ASEAN countries are In-

pore. Vietnam and Cambodia

now attend ASEAN meetings by

invitation, and are expected to

become members in the future.

example of the possible spending

in this region in the future." Mr.

Lim said. He added that total

offshore expenditure in the re-

gion was estimated at more than \$68 billion for the first half of this

Energy — particularly oil, gas and coal — is now the largest

single sector in terms of both

trade and investment in the

Asian-Pacific region. Mr. Lim

said. The region's demand for

petrochemicals amounts to 50 per

cent of global production, he

"This proposed project is an

LONDON (R) - The dollar took the latest in a series of tumbles against the yen Tuesday. hitting fresh lows against the powerful Japanese currency only three days before crucial U.S.-Japanese trade talks in Washing-

The yen also flexed its muscles against other currencies in Far East trade despite reported Bank of Japan (BOJ) intervention to curb its gains. It set new post-World War II highs at 106.25 per dollar and 65.56 per mark, deal-

"The stronger yen seems to be rate)," he said

Association of South East Asian

5,000-kilometre gas pipeline, a Singapore official said Monday.

isting gas fields with available

markets in the ASEAN coun-

tries," Lim Boon Heng, senior

minister of state for trade and

industry, said at the 3rd interna-

tional offshore and polar en-

He gave no details on cost or a

Mr. Lim said the Asia-Pacific

region held vast resources, in-

cluding the Natuna Sea gas fields

in Indonesia, the Ampa Scuth-

west and Champion fields in

Brunei, the West Linapacan,

Octon and Malampaya fields in

the Philippines, and new fields in

timetable for building the pipe-

gineering conference.

The pipeline will link all ex-

gas pipeline

5,000-kilometre

SINGAPORE (AP) — The Cambodia and Vietnam.

Nations (ASEAN) plans to link donesia, Malaysia, Brunei, the

all six member countries with a Philippines, Thailand and Singa-

an unstoppable force at the mo-Japan's discount rate is already ment. The market's really got the at a record low 2.50 per cent after

bit between its teeth for 105 per a series of reductions. dollar," said David Brown, chief The renewed dollar fall started economist at Tokai Bank Europe in Asian trade.

Jim O'Neill, head of research By 1220 GMT the dollar had at Swiss Bank Corp in London, climbed out of the depths to trade said the yen's rise was in part at 106.70 yen, compared with because the market had expected 107.45 late Monday. action to support the dollar Mon-Tokai's Brown said Bank of day, after the Federal Reserve, Japan intervention would only have a temporary effect. "If the the U.S. central bank, supported

it last week. BOJ really wants to stop the yen "A lot of interbank traders in its tracks, it's going to have to cut the ODR (official discount bought dollars expecting central banks to interveue. It hasn't happened so they all piled out." O'Neill said. **ASEAN** planning

Tokyo traders said Japanese life insurers selling Australian dollars for yen had also pushed the yen higher. They said the BOJ had bought dollars for yen intermittently, lifting the U.S. currency from the 106.25 low.

war low in European trade because the market was nervous of selling too many dollars in case the federal reserve intervened in U.S. trade later Tuesday. Shortly after the opening of

Dealers here said the dollar

stayed steady just above the post-

U.S. trade, dealers in New York said the Fed was rumoured to be checking dollar/yen rates. We've heard the Fed's checking rates." said a dealing bank source, "but they have not

checked with us directly." President Bill Clinton and Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa meet in Washington this Friday for talks focusing on

how Japan will slash its huge

trade surplus. U.S. dealers believe the Fed is likely to stem the yen's rise to avoid creating an acrimonious atmosphere at the talks, but analysts see the dollar falling further in the coming weeks.

French employers promise mobilisation for jobs

leaders, under government pressure to help combat record unemployment, pledged Monday to launch a national drive to train young people.

But they refused to hait mounting redundancies and declined to commit themselves to a goal of 200,000 extra apprenticeships requested by Prime Minister Edouard Balladur.

Mr. Balladur bluntly urged the industrialists do their share to haul France's economy out of recession at a meeting with 29 leaders of the CNPF employers' Aides quoted him as saying his new conservative government

had done a lot to reduce the tax burden on industry and create "a favourable environment for growth." The ball now was in the

employers' court, he said. CNPF President François Perigot said his organisation would to make the most of the government's job-creation measures and provide work experience for young people.

But he said he had no right to ask companies to freeze layoffs if their economic survival was at stake, noting that the government too was closing army bases as an economy measure. "Don't ask me to make prom-

ises about jobs for young people, he told reporters. "I believe this kind of promise has no foundation in today's confused economic situation. But I can tell you we will do the maximum.

Government and independent forecasts say the French economy is likely to contract by up to one per cent in 1993.

Before the talks, officials said Mr. Balladur was impatient with the employers' reluctance to reciprocate for his tax concessions less rate to a record 10.9 per cent of the workforce.

But he showed no dissatisfaction after the meeting, telling a news conference: "Our entire or social policy, he said. country --- companies, trade unions, government, local authorities and the public sector - has taken the measure of the challenge so that a great national solidarity effort can help us over-

come this trial.' Mr. Perigot said before the talks that the government's re-vised budget "lack sufficiently powerful measures to save companies which are dying every day from suffocation.

Some senior industrialists have opposed the "strong franc" poli-cy's pursued by Mr. Balladur and his socialist predecessor. Pierre Beregovoy, and urged the government to devalue the currency, cut interest rates and go all-out

But aides said Mr. Balladur told the CNPF: "There will not beas devaluation or a revival of inflation as long as I am here." He would not change economic

Employers worry that the benefits from Mr. Balladur's measures to stimulate construction and public works and cut payroll taxes might be partially nullified by a rise in taxes on income to plug a deficit in social security

The meeting took place amid controversy over attempts by some employers to force wage cuts on their employees in the recession as an alternative to redundancies. Some firms have consulted

staff by referendum on cuts in pay

and working hours to save jobs after negotiating with unions. Emballage, a Sarrebourg packag-

But in the latest case Morin ing firm owned by the Swiss

until Monday to accept without negotiation a five per cent wage cut, cancellation of a planned 1.2 per cent increase and the withholding of a 13th month payment to avoid redundancy.

In a last-minute U-turn, Morin said Monday it would not go ! ahead with its plan because of the stir it had caused.

Labour Minister Michel Giraud - who had deplored the company's tactics and said it had nothing to do with Mr. Balladur's proposal that the government should make up the wages of employees whose pay was cut to save their jobs — said he had learnt of Morin's decisions "with satisfaction.'

Trade unions and the left wing opposition have denounced Mr. Balladur's as an inititation to slash wages. The prime minister told reporters the idea was still being discussed.

Latin Americans drive for top GATT job

GENEVA (R) — Latin American countries signalled Monday their determination to seek appointment of a Uruguayan trade diplomat as head of the GATT world trade watchdog over a European Community (EC) nominee.

After some two weeks of discussion with other developing states, they decided 75-year-old Julio Lacarte-Muro would be their single candidate against Irth banker and former EC Competition Commissioner Peter Sutherland, diplomats said.

"We think we have the best candidate, and we think we can convince many other countries from other parts of the world to support him," one senior Latin American envoy told Reuters We think he is the right man for GATT at this time. GATT, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, has

called a special meeting of its ruling council Wednesday to hear whether there is consensus among the 111 member states on a successor to outgoing Director-General Arthur Dunkel. GATT decisions are routinely

taken by consensus, and over the past two months Indian Ambassador Balkrishnan Zutshi -chairman of its contracting parties or signatories - has been sounding out views on who should take over.

Mr. Sutherland, 47, has no direct experience of GATT. However, he has the backing not only of the EC and the United States but also of many other developed countries and some

developing states who say he will bring a new approach to the

Until the Latin American countries began active promotion of the Third World claim for a shot at the post, Mr. Sutherland had appeared almost certain to achieve consensus Wednesday and take up the post on July 1. Latin American trade diplo-

mats and some from other developing states say they feel Mr. Sutherland's assumption of the post has been treated too much as a foregone conclusion in an organisation where their countries are playing a growing role. But until Monday neutral di-

plomats said the drive for Mr. Lacarte-Muro to take over - or perhaps former Colombian Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jara-

millo who is now out of the race was likely to fizzle out well before Wednesday's vote.

"Now it looks as though they are determined to take it right down to the line, although I still think Sutherland will emerge with the most support and get consensus at the council," said an envoy from one developed country.

Latin American diplomats said they would lbe holding meetings Tuesday with GATT ambassadors from different parts of the world. "We are sure that if they were willing to listen to us, they will see the merits of our candidate," said one envoy.

But they declined to say whether they would insist on taking the issue to a vote Wednesday an unheard of precedent in GATT whose three chiefs until now have all been appointed by

The organisation was set up in the wake of World War II as a forum to elaborate international rules of trade and supervise their enforcement. Its first directorgeneral was British and his two successors were both Swiss.

Asked if he felt a Latin American should now get the job, President Carlos Menem of Argentina told reporters in Geneva on Monday he felt it would be "a gesture of goodwill" but indi-cated he did not think it would happen.
"We would like to see it, but

there are powerful interests who want it to be a European and I xial think it would be utopian for us to think we will get it now," he said. #5

Zimbabwe seen heading for second year of slide HARARE (R) - Zimbabwe, economists on an unrelenting

spending spree by the govern-

ment, which has repeatedly in-

vaded the money market to bor-

row for its development projects.

Government expenditure

lready cats up half the country's

annual gross domestic product,

one of the highest such rates in

the world. Last week alone the

state borrowed 151 million (\$24

terest rates of nearly 40 per cent

in the latest of its forays into the

from the market by the govern-

"Continued heavy borrowing

cash-strapped market.

driven to near collapse last year by a crippling drought and recession. could see its economy decline again this year in the face of high interest rates, inflation and controversial government policies.

Economists and market analysts, who had predicted a modest economic recovery for the southern African country after heavy rains broke the million) from the market at indrought, are now revising their forecasts, saying negative growth of at least one per cent is likely. The Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, a mirror of the country's economy, has stayed depressed since the start of the year, and

analysts blame especially the high cost of money. "High interest rates are killing businesses. Businesses cannot borrow to buy capital equipment nor service their debts. They have

halted or postponed all expansion projects," a stock market analyst told Reuters. Interest rates are hovering around 40 per cent and annual inflation, which soared to a re-

cord 50 per cent in 1992, is 30 per cent despite a spirited government effort to talk it down. The high rates are blamed by

ment is crowding out the productive private sector, which should be given priority in getting more money to expand and try to ease the present high unemployment," a bank economist said.

"As it is, there are warning signs that some companies which survived the drought and recession of last year could collapse, adding to the country's growing

problems," he added. Zimbabwe's economy shrank by a record 12 per cent last year when a withering drought sent its key agriculture sector plunging by

70 per cent. At least 20,000 work-

- or two per cent of the

national workforce - lost their

Zimbabwe's largest bank, Standing Chartered, echoed the view of several economists when it said this week: "Another year of decline is a very real possibility, given the preponderance of downward risks in both the domestic and global economic

The bank noted that industrialised nations, which buy Zimbabwe's main exports of tobacco cotton and minerals such as gold, were recovering only slowly from last year's recession, thus curtailing an export-driven recovery.

In addition, the prices for Zimbabwe's biggest single export carner, flue-cured tobacco, had crashed since the beginning of the year largely because of an oversupply in world markets and high state taxes levied on cigarettes worldwide.

Other analysts noted that despite a government drive to improve the country's investment climate, some policies such as the forcibly state takeover of farms to resettle landless blacks were apparently giving a negative image among foreign investors.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JUNE 9, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The middle part of the day can bring considerable difficulties through misunderstandings and a breakdown in communications between people. Evening can be rewarding from a social standpoint. ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

You are now considering what you can best do to express your basic talent so you can get better returns from it and those most able to

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Home interests and what your standpoint should be in the days ahead can well be the motivating factor of your thoughts and studies

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Consider any courses of studies in which you can engage that will better equip you to go forward in whatever you wish to do daily in the future.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Money and the good things of life mean a great deal to you and this is a time for you to crystalise how you can best obtain

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Your own personal ambitions can be seriously considered now as well as those who are most able to aid you to make them happen quickly in your

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) A good day to quietly get off alone or with trusted advisors to

DOWN

36 Edge 40 Actress

decide just what your goals are for the days ahead and to make a plan to get them.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22)-A very good day to clarify in your own mind what your personal objectives are for the days ahead and to think out how you can bring them to vourself.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You are not sure just what in the way of career conditions in the future and you would be wise you discuss potent al aims with a

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You like to think big and you have a day now when you can add to your present development by some new approach that brings more acclaim.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Think about how far you have advanced in your business development and look for further studies or experiences than can add to your present know-

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Seek out conservative influential persons who can give you advice in the directions that are important to you and decide future

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You are considering some changes in your surroundings and now you have the good ideas that will bring you more comfort and happiness there.

Peanuts





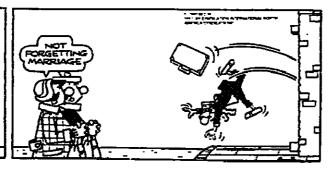




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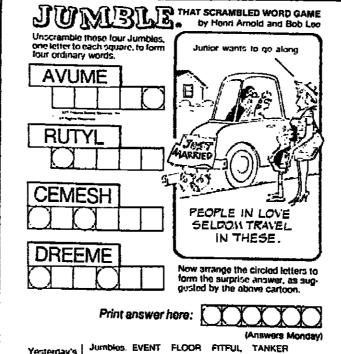


Mutt'n'Jeff

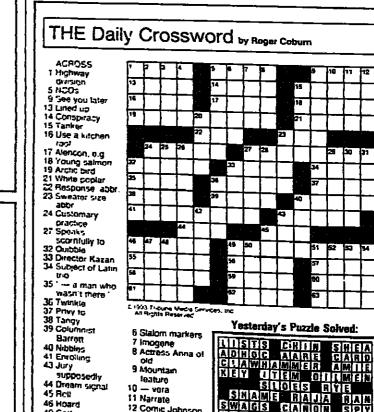
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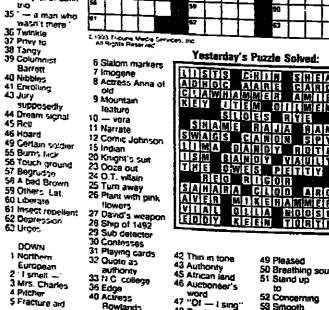


THE BETTER HALF By Glasbergen "This instant spray-on hair doesn't work for mustaches."



One of the identical twins was five feet tall-What was the other?---FIVE FEET, TOO





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Сиггенсу	New York Close	Tokyo Close
	Date 7/6/93	Date 8/6/93
Sterling Pound	1.5225	1.5218
Deutsche Mark	1.6195	1.6205
Swiss Franc	1.4545	1.4535
French Franc	5.4573	- 5.4650 **
Japanese Yen	10711	106.33
European Current Unit	1.2058	1.2037 **

UND Per SIT:

Date: 8/6/1993			
HS 6 MTHS	12 MTHS		
3.53	3.81		
5.75	5.84		
7.25	6.75		
4.88	4.69		
7.06	6.68		
3.18	3.34		
7.18	7.00		
	7.18		

Precious Metals			. ~	Date: 8/	6/1993
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm [∆]	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	373.75	7.15	Silver	4.39	.104
21 Same					

	Date: 8/6/1993			
Currency	Bid	Offer		
U.S. Dollar	0.6860	0.6880		
Sterling Pound	1.0432	1.0484		
Deutsche Mark	0.4235	0.4256		
Japanese Yen"	0.6439	0.6471		
Dutch Guilder	0.3776	0.3795		
Swedish Krona	0.0945	0.0950		
ijalian Lira	0.0464	0.0466		
Belgian Franc	0.02060	0.02070		

Other Currencies	Da	Date: 8/6/1993		
Сштевсу	Bid	Offer		
Bahraini Dinar	1.7970	1.8300		
Lebanese Lira	0.0380	0.0405		
Sandi Riyal	0.1826	0.1838		
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2300	2.2800		
Qatari: Riyal	0.1858	0.1870		
Egyptian Pound	0.1950	0.2100		
Omani Riyal	1.7450	1.7850		
UA <u>P</u> Dirham	0.1858	0.1870		
Greek Drachma	0.3120	0.3200		
Cypriet Pound	1.4140	1.4300		

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

106.45/50

7.2400/500

6.8580/680

1.2842/47 U.S. \$1:00 costs 1.6205/15 1.8185/95 1.4525/35 33,32/33 5,4625/75 1479/1481

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Canadian dollar

No plan to liquidate Jordan Cooperative Bank - Nabulsi

By Ziyad Al Shileh

Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN — Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi Tuesday denied that the Jordan Cooperative Bank was being liquidated. He said the bank had run into difficulties due to lack of sufficient liquidity, but a special committee has been set up to supervise the bank's reorganisational process to enable it to function normally. In a statement to the Al Ra'i and the Jordan Times,

Dr. Nabulsi said as of Saturday

the bank will allow depositors to

withdraw their money if their

account does not exceed JD

1,000. Other depositors will be

tion of the bank's dues which double the total amount of deposits, he said. Dr. Nabulsi said depositors should rest assured that they

would not incur any losses. The total amount of deposits in the bank does not exceed JD 11 million, he said. The bank's estimated assets exceeded JD 20 Dr. Nabulsi noted that the JCO

is a specialised money-ending institution and not a commercial bank, but it faced a shortage in liquidity and could not meet depositors' demands. "The CBJ will pursue serious

efforts towards collecting the JCO's dues and would not be lenient with defaulters, he said. allowed to draw their money gra-dually, depending on the collec-all deposits, he added. The debts are sufficient to cover



Mohammad Saced Al Nabulsi

He also announced that the CBJ will offer the JCO sufficient loans to cover the amounts of and

The Council of Ministers earlier decided to form a committee to deal with the difficulties facing the JCO. According to Dr. Nabulsi the CBJ has no intention whatsoever to liquidate the JCO.

India to buy more Gulf oil

ABU DHABI (R) — India will import more oil from Gulf Arab states this year to compensate for a shortfall in supplies from Russia, an Indian official said Tues-

Falguni Rajkumar, joint secretary in the petroleum ministry, said India would increase the amount it buys under long-term contracts with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Ara-

It will also buy crude from Oman and Yemen, he added: "The main thing is the Russian sources have dried out," Mr. Rajkumar said in an interview. "We're trying new sources"

in this part of the world." Mr. Rajkumar, who is in charge of refineries and the crude

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and petroleum products trade, is part of an Indian delegation which ended three days of talks in

the UAE Tuesday. "Both sides noted with satisfaction Indian intention to purchase oil from the UAE in enhanced quantities during 1993-94," said the minutes. of the talks. obtained by Reuters.

Mr. Rajkumar said India was importing more crude from the main Gulf Arab producers between April 1993 to March 1994 even though overall crude imports were expected to fall

India expects to import about 28.9 million tonnes (578,000 barrels per day) of crude between April 1993 and March 1994, down from 588,400 b/d the year before because maintenance work will

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restrict refining capacity, he said. Russia supplied India with about 60,000 barrels per day (b/d) of crude in 1991/92 but the supply dropped off the next year as Russia grappled with economic

reforms. So in the year ending March 1993, India imported only 360,000 b/d of crude on term contracts, 60,000 b/d less than it had originally expected, Mr. Raikumar said.

"The Russian supply did not materialise," he said. "Because of that we were buying large volumes on spot. Now we will be able to plan better."

He said India would increase term purchases of Saudi Arabian crude by 20,000 b/d in 93/94 from 100,000 b/d the previous year.

JORDAN

MARKET PLACE

Iran reschedules debt

TEHRAN (R) — Cash-strapped central bank, which has guaran-Iran has successfully rescheduled teed rescheduling so far, was \$2.9 billion of overdue foreign debts over the past few weeks and could well overcome its shortterm debt crisis by early next year, economists and diplomats

The latest rescheduling for \$1 billion overdue to a group of Japanese trading houses was completed last week, they said.

Like the terms for the other \$1.9 billion, the Japanese companies, which include such major names as Marubeni. Mitsubishi and Mitsui, have given Iran 12 months of grace to repay the credit.

The overdue debt is for trade financing obtained under onevear credit terms which Iranian banks have not been able to honour due to a severe foreign exchange shortage.

The crisis hit Iran, which had an exemplary record until then. after importers went on a \$10 billion spending binge following an easing of import restrictions last August, the sources said.

Iranian central bank governor Hussein Adeli said Monday Iran was close on agreement on rescheduling \$2.5-\$3 billion of overdue short-term debt.

The economists believe this was in addition to the \$2.9 billion recently rescheduled which included a further \$500 million to Japanese trading houses, \$1 billion to ten German banks and \$400 million to five French banks.

Apart from \$600-\$800 million owed to other foreign commercial banks mainly in Britain and Europe, the economists believed most of the rest of the overdue debt was tied to export guarantees provided by foreign govern-

The economists said this was more problematic because the reluctant to get directly involved with export credit agents.

Some of these agencies have long pushed for central bank guarantees of their credit to Iran. But the bank has refused so far to become the ultimate guarantor of sales to Iran. It fears that credits for imports would become "sovereign debts" - making the government rather than the bor-

rower responsible for them. If the bank guarantees repayment of overdue debt to these agencies, the agencies may in future insist on central bank guarantees for all their credits. The sources were largely opti-

mistic about the outcome of the negotiations.

Mr. Adeli said the overdue debt was part of Iran's \$6 billion in short-term debt. The sources said in order to restore its credit worthiness, Iran was seriously

Foreign banks were at present refusing to consider the bulk of requests for trade financing. Those solid Iranian merchants and institutions whose requests are accepted, are having to pay up front 18-20 per cent of the value of any letters of credit, they

Normal practice in the past was probably five per cent.

Iran is expected to complete the rescheduling of its remaining overdue debts and repay most of the rest of its short-term debts by March 1994, the end of its current financial year.

The sources said that if this is completed successfully, Iran's financial credibility would be largely restored. Banks should then expect to be repaid with a delay of no more than one month rather than have to wait and average of seven months as they trying to repay as soon as possible do now, the sources added.

Hong Kong has \$67b invested in China

dollars (\$67.4 billion), an unpre- Pearl river delta. cedented survey of Hong Kong It is closely followed by investment in China says.

the Hong Kong stock exchange, towards infrastructure projects survey said. and property development, says Securities Asia, a unit of France's Credit Lyonnais bank.

HONG KONG (AFP) - Hong Holdings, which has 100.1 billion Kong listed companies have dollars (\$12.95 billion) commitforged deals in China worth a ted to China ventures, including a total of 521 billion Hong Kong motorway around the southern

Cheung Kong Holdings, the real The sum is equal to nearly a estate flagship of Hong Kong's third of the total capitalisation of premier tycoon Li .Ka-Shing. which has 90.5 billion dollars, with most of the money going worth of projects in China, the

While 62 per cent of all prothe report by Credit Lyonnais jects were in Guangdong province, which abuts Hong Kong, "interest in Fujian, Shanghai, Leading the pack in terms of Hubei and Beijing is on the rise, total project costs is Hopewell Credit Lyonnais said.

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Muslim forces win control of key town in central Bosnia

SARAJEVO (AP) - Muslim forces have won control of the strategic central Bosnian town of Travnik, driving out thousands of Croats who sought refuge with Bosnian Serbs, U.N. officials and news reports said Tuesday.

Croats and Muslims were allied against the Serbs when the Bosnian war began 14 months ago. but the allegiance has broken down on various occasions as the factions seek control of important

The Muslim victory came the day after Bosnian leaders, in a desperate attempt to end the war. reluctantly accepted a U.N. peace plan they said would force Muslims into ghettos and reward Serb aggression.

Travnik is a mixed Muslim-

Croat town, where tensions have been exacerbated by the arrival over past months of thousands of Muslim refugees from other war zones in Bosnia.

Croat forces driven out of Travnik in fierce weekend fighting attacked Muslim positions there early Tuesday, shelling it from the area of Vitez, 10 miles (16 kilometres) south, said Commander Barry Frewer, spokesman for U.N. peacekeepers in Sarajevo. But Muslim forces beat them back and drove them out, said Lesley Burgess, a spokesman for U.N. peacekeepers in Split.

Tuesday rejected a South Korean

demand that nuclear issues be put

at the top of the agenda for a

proposed border meeting. North Korean Prime Minister

Kang Song San said in a tele-

phone message to his South Ko-rean counterpart, Hwang In-Sung, that the border meeting, if

held, must discuss only exchang-

ing special envoys to arrange for

In the message sent through

the border village of Panmunjom,

senior Azeri official said Tuesday

authorities did not want to crush

an uprising by rebels who have

seized the former Soviet repub-

lic's second most important city.

forces to solve the problem but this is

not the moment for it, "presiden-

tial spokesman Arif Aliyev said in

Azeris. We are using other

weapons, such as negotiation-

s...to resolve the problem."

Aliyev said the rebels, who

seized the western city of

Gyandzha in weekend fighting.

had set up their own power struc-

tures. Government forces have

been withdrawn from the city.

agency said flags were flying at half mast across the country after

President Abulfaz Elchibey de-

clared a day of mourning for the 60 people killed in Gyandzha.

Guseinov offered to resign Mon-

day evening in response to the

TASS quoted parliamentary

speaker Isa Gambarov — one of

the leaders of the Popular Front

Movement which took power last

May — as saving the offer was "a

timely move" and would allow

Prime Minister Panakh

Russia's ITAR-TASS news

an interview.

'We have enough government

"We do not want Azeris killing

an inter-Korea summit.

'The city is controlled by Muslim forces now, and HVO (Croat forces') headquarters is demolished," Mr. Burgess said. Croat forces went northwest out of the town, and exited through

Some Croat soldiers apparently fled in civilian clothes, he said. House were burning in at least one deserted Croat village outside Travnik, Mr. Frewer said. Sporadic fighting also continued in outlying villages, U.N. officials

A Croat military spokesman said hundreds of people had died in the battle for Travnik, but Mr. Frewer said that report was un-

Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban, in a letter to Bosnia's president, Alija Izetbegovic, and international mediators, charged that 350 Croats were held in Travnik "in some kind of camp, exposed to every torture, massacre and shooting.

The Croatian population in that area is in danger of total destruction," the letter said.

Thousands of Croats were so terrified by the weekend fighting that they fled across Bosnian Serb lines on Mount Vlasic above Travnik, according to U.N. and Croat officials and media reports. Belgrade television, apparently anxious to emphasise that Bos-nian Serbs were aiding fellow

N. Korea rejects discussion

of nuclear issues with Seoul

attended by two vice cabinet-

level delegates from each side.

changed several proposals and

counterproposals for border talks

since late last month, but differed

sharply over the date and format

In its latest proposal Monday,

South Korea suggested that the border contact be arranged for Tuesday. The communist North

the creation of a government of

Another source close to the

The departure of some minis-

president said rebels wanted the

entire government, except Mr.

ters could be accepted as a com-

promise," said the source, who

Mr. Aliyev declined to com-

ment on reports that Geidar

Aliyev, former Communist Party

head of Azerbaijan and currently

leader of its Nakhichevan en-

clave, was a front-runner for the

has been wracked by political

chaos since it gained independ-

ence after the break-up of the

Soviet Union in 1991, much of it

fuelled by fighting with Armenian forces over the disputed territory

At least 2,500 people have been killed in battles over the

Guseinov, a former army com-

mander sacked after defeats in

fighting with Armenian forces,

had captured four top govern-

ment officials in Gyandzha, in-

cluding the prosecutor general

and deputy security and interior

Mr. Aliyev confirmed Suret

of Nagorno-Karabakh.

region since 1988.

The transcaucasian republic

asked to remain nameless.

Azeri authorities not

to use force on rebels

national unity.

Elchibey, to resign.

The rival Koreas have ex-

Kang proposed that the meeting ignored the Southern suggestion be held Thursday, and be in its most recent proposal.



Two Muslim girls stand in the doorway of their graffiti-daubed house in the centre of the Serbbesieged Bosuian capital (AFP photo)

Christian Croats against Muslim forces, showed hundreds of Croats jammed into buses, trucks and tractors arriving on Mount

More than 138,000 people are dead or missing and 2 million others have been driven from their homes in a war that broke out after Muslims and Croats voted to secede from Serbdominated Yugoslavia. Muslims have been the big losers, now controlling just a few pockets in a

Seoul officials see the North's

move as part of a strategy to use

the nuclear issue as a bargaining chip in talks with the United

The United States held two rounds of high-level talks with

North Korea in New York last

week but failed to make progress in trying to get the North to stay within international nuclear con-

TASS said Mr. Guseinov, a

member of parliament, had de-

manded the legislature meet to

discuss the situation in the coun-

try, which lost about one tenth of

its territory to Armenia in battles

Mr. Aliyev said Mr. Guseinov

also wanted guarantees that he

and his 350 men would not be

punished. There were another

350 "criminals", including Rus-

Gyandzha region backed Mr.

Guseinov, who he said had hand-

ed out weapons to local people.

the last few weeks to take control

of other towns, he said, but gave

no further details. He declined to

confirm reports rebels had also

seized the southern town of

Guseinov's men attacked a bar-

racks containing heavy weapons

left behind by former former

Soviet troops who returned to

The commander of an Azeri

army unit was ordered to disband

the rebel unit but his men were

fired on and he was taken hos-

tage. Major fighting then erupted.

The crisis started after Mr.

Attempts had been made over

He acknowledged part of the

sian mercenaries, in the city.

earlier this year.

The government Monday un-

conditionally accepted a U.N. lan that would commit up to 10,000 additional troops to guard civilians in six mainly Muslim towns that were declared "safe

Top Bosnian leaders had rejected the safe zones plan, saying it would herd Muslims onto "reservations" and reward Serbs. who now hold more than 70 per enclave.

country occupied mostly by Serb cent of Bosnia. They preferred an earlier U.N.-backed plan that would give them control of more land than they now hold and deprive Serbs of a chunk of their war-won territory.

But "facing the risk of a rapid escalation of fighting," the government accepted the plan. Its statement was issued as Serbs pounded Gorazde in the east and continued to block U.N. peacekeepers from reaching the

Spain's Socialists to form new consensus government

MADRID (R) - Spain's Socialist Party set about forming a consensus government Tuesday after its fourth consecutive general election win confounded most pundits — but left it short of an overall majority.

Prime Minister Felipe Gon-

zalez's Socialist Workers' Party PSOE) captured 159 seats in the 350-seat lower house, 18 more than the opposition centre-right Popular Party (PP).

Opinion polls in the run-up to Sunday's vote predicted a virtual

But 17 seats of an absolute majority, the Socialists still have to find a way of running the country but most PSOE leaders questioned the need for a coalition government.

"We've got time to decide what we want to do," PSOE deputy leader Alfonso Guerra told news conference Monday.

"But maybe we could have a minority Socialist government which would look for parliamentary support, either on a permanent basis or on a (law by law) basis during the four year legisla-

Spain's deputy prime minister, Narcis Serra, also suggested the PSOE could survive as a minority government, but said he expected to see significant changes in the new administration.

"Felipe Gonzalez already has in mind the team he wants to have around him," Mr. Serra said, adding that the result would be like "an enormous dose of vitamins" for the cabinet.

Mr. Gonzalez himself spent a quiet day Monday out of the public eye, making just a brief visit to the palace to report on the elections to King Juan Carlos.

At the start of the campaign he said he could govern the country without a coalition if he won 160 seats. Most likely partners in any pact would be the Catalan Nationalist Convergencia I Unio

CIU), which won 17 seats.
In return for support they are expected to demand more control over taxation in their region and a swift reduction in interest rates to

help the flagging economy.

"If they make us an offer, then we'll listen," CIU member Miquel Roca said Monday.

New attacks against

Turks in Germany BERLIN (AP) - German police Firemen put out the blaze in the reported four more arson attacks aimed at Turks Tuesday, shortly after Ankara's ambassador to Bonn told his compatriots to brace for more neo-Nazi vio-

Ambassador Onur Oeymen re-

commended buying fire eninguishers, and getting better locks for doors and windows, Turks have been the main

targets in the latest round of violence, including a fire that killed two women and three girls last month in Solingen.

Police said 14 Turks suffered smoke inhalation after unknown attackers set a fire in the foreigners' multi-family home in Wuelfrath near Duesseldorf.

staircase early Tuesday before it could cause major damage.

Foreigners, most of them Turks, fled from an apartment house in Frankfurt, after an arson attack fed by turpentine. No one was injured, and residents put out the flames in the stairwell before firefighters arrived.

Attackers also used a flammable substance to set a fire that badly damaged a Turkish res-taurant in Hamburg overnight. Another Turkish restaurant

was hit by two firebombs in the southwestern town of Oberhausen-Rheinhausen, and the owner suffered smoke inhala-

Pressure mounts on Ciampi after vote

ROME (R) — The fiery leader of Italy's pro-autonomy Northern League has stepped up attacks on Prime Minister Carlo Azeglio Ciampi after protest votes made his fast-rising party the big winner in local polls

Umberto Bossi, buoyed by success from the weekend vote, urged banker-turned-politician Ciampi to ensure rapid approval of a new voting system and then move aside for a general election The Northern League and other protest groups scored

crushing victories in local Italian polls, humiliating corruptiontainted ruling parties and increasing pressure for national elec-

"Ciampi must come up with a new electoral law quickly," Mr. Bossi said in an interview with Daily La Repubblica Tuesday. "He's not the man to lead the country out of its current mess." The leader of the Northern

League, based in Italy's industrial heartland, accused Mr. Ciampi of failing to do his job properly in his stint as governor of the Bank of Italy, his role for 13 years until taking over as prime minister six weeks ago.
"He allowed 40 years of Italian

savings to be eaten up when governor of the Bank of Italy," Mr. Bossi said.

Mr. Ciampi, who took office in April after Italians voted in a referendum to scrap proportional representation, rapidly reiterated his commitment to electoral re-

"The electoral question is the absolute priority," he said within hours of hearing the results of the

The Northern League, with its heady anti-Rome rhetoric and demands for greater local autonomy, was the chief victor as 11 million Italians, a quarter of the national electorate, voted for the mayor and local councils in cities Mr. Bossi's fast-growing force

swept the rich north and seized 41 per cent of the vote in Milan. The poll was the most important test of public opinion since the April 1992 general elections in which small protest parties made important gains.

In the past year a corruption scandal, which broke quietly in Milan some 16 months ago, has become a national storm with hundreds of politicians and



angry Italians demanding sweep-ing changes in the way they are

The Christian Democrats and their Socialist allies, the backbone of Italy's coalition governments in the past 30 years, saw their share of the vote plummet as electors rejected the two parties worst affected by the scandal.

"There is a new political centre. And the league is it." Mr. Bossi thundered.

Achille Occhetto, the leader of the ex-communist Democratic Party of the Left (PDS), whose vote stood up well in the polls, joined the clamour for early elec-

"There is no longer any relationship between the reality of the country and this government," Mr. Occhetto said, adding the PDS could become the leading force in Italian politics and head off the rise of the Northern League.

Mr. Ciampi, who heads Italy's 52nd post-war government, has pledged to have electoral reform on the statute books before parliament rises for its summer holiday in August, clearing the way for a general election in the au-

But opposition leaders fear that with the reform bill still to be properly framed, the ruling parties will attempt to slow the process to allow themselves time to regroup.

We must see if they now try to use delaying tactics, bearing in mind that Sunday's vote would mean three-quarters of current parliamentarians risk being left at home," said Cesare Salvi, PDS spokesman for institutional mat-

businessmen under inquiry and N. Zealand calls on U.S. accept anti-nuclear stand

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger Tuesday called on the United and Mr. Bolger faces general ger Tuesday called on the United States to accept its anti-nuclear stance, saying it was time for a thaw in the two countries' eightyear chill in relations.

Mr. Bolger, whose conservative government had been re-ported to be close to repealing controversial anti-nuclear legislation, said New Zealand's stance was not anti-American.

"It is regrettable that a democratic decision taken by the New Zealand people — to adopt a non-nuclear policy — is not viewed by the U.S. government for what it is, Mr. Bolger told the American Chamber of Commerce in Wellington.

Legislation introduced in 1985 by a left-wing government barring ships carrying nuclear weapons or powered by nuclear energy from New Zealand waters split apart the ANZUS (Australia, New Zealand, U.S.) defence

tionally refused to confirm or deny if its ships are carrying nuclear weapons. Mr. Bolger has been keen to

The United States has tradi-

repair ties with the United States and said last year the U.S. decision to remove tactical nulcear weapons from its warships was a However the anti-nuclear leg-

elections later this year.

Mr. Bolger said Americans who visited New Zealand and saw its clear waters, mountains and clean air "have little difficulty in understanding what we are on about."

The present stand-off has gone on for eight years — too long ... it is time for a thaw." he

He said the two countries should start by improving political relations before tackling security issues and said NEw Zealand political leaders should be welcomed in the United States.

"It is understandable that we look forward to the day when the New Zealand prime minister is also welcome in Washington," Mr. Bolger said.

Mr. Bolger acknowledged he had no ready solution to the security problem. "I hold out no magic formula on which to base a solution. What I hold out is the hand of friendship," he said. The United States has made it

clear to New Zealand in private that it will not approve better defence ties unless Wellington acts to repeal the anti-nuclear legislation, according to Western diplomats in the New Zealand

offers plenty of shelter. Cop Mystery U.S.

The much-

in question

A Americano

illness linked to Asian virus

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico (R) - Health officials in the U.S. state of New Mexico said internal a training suar they are increasingly convinced a training suar they are increasingly convinced a training suar they are that killed 11 people is linked to an Asian virus transmitted by rodent excrement They said blood tests revealed ? They said blood tests revealed to 3 fourth victim had antibodies to 3 fourth victim had antibodies to 3 taan, typically found in dried rodent urine and droppings in the Korean Peninsula and China. Mack Sewell, state epidemiologist, told a news briefing. The virus, which has flu-like symptoms, may have been around for some time without being recognised, Mr. Sewell said. The virus has an incubation period of seven to 35 days. Early symptoms in-

2 years for ordering student to eat feces

PEKING (AP) — A teacher who ordered a student to eat feces has been sentenced to two years in prison, according to an official report seen in Peking Monday. Liao Banggui, 26, a fifth-grade teacher in the southwestern province of Yunnan, also was ordered to pay the student 200. yuan (\$35) to compensate for economic losses and loss of reputation, the Xinmin Evening News (Xinmin Wanbao) reported in its . Saturday edition. The report said Mr. Liao had discovered a pile of human feces beneath the black-board in his classroom April 12 and heard that first-grader Yang Zaifu was responsible. Mr. Liao told the child that if he didn't admit it was his feces, Mr. Liao yang didn't him. would take an ax and kill him. When Yang admitted it, Mr. Liao ordered him to eat the feces in front of the class. Yang put a handful in his mouth and threw away the rest in the toilet.

troubles far from over

Lenkoran.

Russia in May.

tor Woody Allen was sadly mis-taken if he thought a Judge's ruling in his child custody battle with estranged lover Mia Farrow would allow him to restore some of his battered image and get on with his career.

A New York state judge ripped into Mr. Allen in a 33-page ruling which called the film director's lawsuit to gain custody of his three children "frivolous." Ms. Farrow and Mr. Allen had

been feuding over custody of adopted children Moses. 15, and Dylan, 7, as well as their biological son Satchel, aged 5. And left hanging over Mr.

Allen was the allegation that he sexually abused Dylan one day last summer. The charge was made by Ms.

Farrow, who made a videotape of Dylan describing the incident. Mr. Allen said the allegations were part of a smear campaign by

Mr. Allen had been euphoric when medical experts from Yale University dismissed the allegations after a thorough investiga-

But in his ruling, supreme court Judge Elliott Wilk criticised the Yale report and sided with Ms. Farrow's experts, saying

know" what occurred between Mr. Allen and Dylan.

Because of these concerns, Mr. Wilk said, Mr. Allen cannot see the children without some kind of "It's a real hit to Allen's repu-

tation. It's the ultimate defeat," said Gary Skoloff, of Livingston. N.J., a past chairman of the American Bar Association's family law section. "It's demeaning. It means he can't be alone with his own kids."

Mr. Wilk also rebuked Mr. Allen for having an affair with Soon-Yi Previn, the 22-year-old adopted daughter of Ms. Farrow and her former husband Andre

Ms. Farrow split up with Mr. Allen when she discovered nude pictures of Soon-Yi Taken by the director in January 1992.

Mr. Wilk was clearly shocked that Mr. Allen did not underctand that having an affair with the sister of his adopted children would put a strain on the family.

"My caution is the product of Mr. Allen's demonstrated inability to understand the impact that his words and deeds have upon the emotional well-being of his children," Mr. Wilk said in the "Having isolated Soon-Yi from her family, he left her with no visible support system. He had no consideration for the consequences to her, to Ms. Farrow, to the Previn children for whom he cared little or to his own children for whom he professes love," Mr. Wilk said

A clearly subdued Mr. Allen said at a news conference after the ruling was made public that there were positive and negative aspects to the decision.

"I was disappointed that I didn't get more visitation with my

son Satchel. I think it's unfortunate, even tragic, for the kids that I didn't get custody of them."

"I am committed to them totally." he said before walking out without taking any questions. Ms. Farrow, in rare comments to the press, said she was glad the Case was over.

"I hope I can go home to my children and have some measure of peace and to heal, and that we can wake up to a real normal day," she said. But that will have to wait a while. The two will return to

court Wednesday when Ms. Far-

row will attempt to anull Mr.

Allen's adoption of Moses and



Actress Mis Farrow (centre) and her attorney, Eleanor Alter (right), make their way through reporters after the verdict came in ber favour (AFP photo)

Prevention only way to check AIDS - expert BERLIN (R) - The world can-

not halt the AIDS epidemic yet and must concentrate on slowing ference on AIDS said Tuesday. Peter Lamptey of the U.S.

Agency for International Development (USAID) said that, with a cure not likely in this century, the only way the disease could be checked was through prevention.

"No one can stop the epidemic but we can slow it down," he told Reuters before addressing the conference. "Some programmes. have been successful, but not enough is being done. We're still

chasing the epidemic."
Mr. Lamptey, author of a study of prevention programmes, said some strides had been made towards slowing the spread of the virus in 40 countries where the USAID's aids control and pre-vention project (AIDSCAP) was

The goal of the five-year 168-million U.S. government scheme is to set up prevention programit down, a top researcher attending the Ninth International Conance and money.

Focusing on slowing the sexual transmission of AIDS, it helped distribute 700 million condoms in

The numbers of condoms we are providing is grossly inadequate. Our aim is to protect the high-risk sex act, not to protect every sex act."

In many countries, Mr. Lamptey said efforts had centred on providing free condoms to drug users, truck drivers and prostitutes and their clients. Mr. Lamptey said AIDSCAP

had been able to persuade several governments to remove or reduce taxes on condoms, to relax bans on advertising and to persuade policy-makers that extensive prevention efforts could have an important effect.

McDonald's breaking labour laws employees PARIS (AP) — Already under fire for undermining French cuisine, McDonald's is drawing.

protests by employees who say the fast food giant is riding roughshod on France's strong labour in traditions. At 14 of the 25 McDo nald'ss restaurants in Paris, demonstrators over the weekend handed out 15,000 leaflets and collected several hundred signatures against alleged labour infractions by the company. Employees organised by the CFDT Labour Union say the company has failed to hold elections for worker committees on operations, hygiene and security. Theyallege the restaurants break rules on work contracts, shift schedules and layoff procedures. Several cases are being heard before government-organised arbitration panels. Telephone calls to a of McDonald's France went unanswered Monday. French labour unions remain relatively strong National National Trans (\$6.30) per house to 34

francs (\$6.30) per hour July 1. Miscarriages higher in: some IBM workers

WASHINGTON (R) - Higher washington (R) — Higher rates of miscarriage were found among pregnant employees working with certain chemicals in manufacturing IBM semiconductors, medical experts reported. Researchers at Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health said two studies found regnant women who work with ethylene glycol ether (EGE)- 1 and seed based photoresist mixtures had based photoresist mixtures had an increased rate of miscarriage and specific international Business Machine Corp has been phasing out the use of EGEs and will have eliminated them from all manufacturing worldwide by the end of next

Rhinos use suncream: ** Tugosla motorways crack in **British heatwave**

LONDON (R) — Rhinos put suncream on, motorways cracked and a waxwork of Prime Minister John Major had to be put in a refrigerator because it started to melt as Britain sweltered in a heatwaye. Temperatures heatwave. Temperatures across (1/R) - Or the country Monday matched World Cup Sunday's record for the hottest. In that the day of the year at 79 Fahrenheit; its sunday (26.1 C) and weather forecasters ideal decrease. said there was more hot weather- at me: th to come. Thousands of motorists in the late is headed for the coast causing traf- !(ap Orzanisin fic snarl-ups while one motorway. Man Alan untsead Air-∴ ≊ն∎очас π port in southern England as the : 25mm to the road surface buckled with the cond to heat. Rhinos at London's zon the bullet and the heat of the heat and the heat are the heat and the heat are th have skincare cream smeared on its their hides. Although they come from East Africa, rhinos Jos and Trumbuse Rosie were not used to so much. I had then direct sunlight because the thick bush of their natural habitat.

clude a high fever and muscle aches in the legs, hips and lower back, and possibly coughing and redness of the eyes.

Teacher sentenced for

Nets' DrazenPetrovic killed in car accident

NEW YORK (AP) — Drazen Petrovic of the New Jersey Nets, one of the top guards in the NBA, was killed in a car accident in Germany Monday, his attornew told the Associated Press. He \$ 28 years old.

Nicholas Goyak said from his home in McMinnville, Oregon, that he had spoken with Petrovic's family and they confirmed the Croatia native was killed in the accident.

"He was one of my best friends," said Goyak, his voice choking on the telephone. "I just talked to him Friday. He was going to Zagreb today. I just talked to his family. It's a very ead day.

Goyak had no further details on the accident.

Radio Zagreb in Croatia reported the death, saying the country had lost its top basketball star and one of its greatest whiletes. However, the station not elaborate. Brian McIntyre, National Bas-

ketball Association vice president in charge of public relations, said, 'Obviously, we're saddened to hear the news about Drazen. It's a tragedy, and our hopes and thoughts go out to his family."

.The 6-foot-5 (1.9 metres) Petrovic was a member of Croatia's silver medal-winning Olympic team. He left the United States after the Nets were eliminated from the playoffs, unsure if he was going to return to the NBA or play with a European club next

He had just finished playing with Croatia in a special qualing tournament in Wroclaw, and. Croatia was one of three nations to advance to the June 22 European Championships in Ger-

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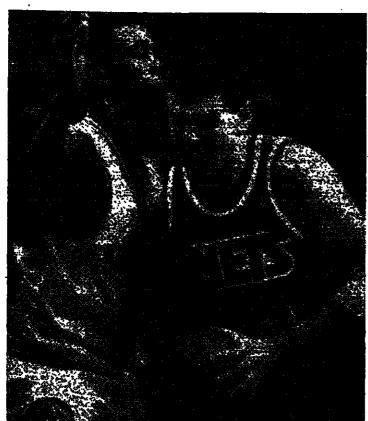
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In his last game, Petrovic scored 30 points in Croatia's 94-90 loss Sunday to Slovenia, another former Yugoslav repub-

Petrovic is the fifth prominent



New Jersey Nets' Guard Drazen Petrovic (No. 3) (right) drives against Timberwolves Dong West during NBA action earlier this year

athlete in American sports to die March. in accidents this year. Tim Crews and Steve Olin of the Cleveland Indians were killed in a boating accident in March. Race car driver Alan Kulwicki died in a plane crash in April and Iowa Basketball star Chris Street was killed in a car accident in January.

Petrovic, selected to the All-NBA third team, averaged 22.3 points on 52 per cent shooting from Europe. A lot more." and was one of the league's top-3point shooters.

His contract with the Nets had that would have made Petrovic expired after this season and Pet- second only to Michael Jordan on rovic was upset the club did noit the pay scale among shooting offer him a new contract until guards.

After the Nets were eliminated by Cleveland in first round of the playoffs, Petrovic said he would probably play in Europe next season.

"I took a chance, played the whole year without a contract," Petrovic said at the time. "I have to do what's best for me and now definitely more money is coming

The Nets' offer reportedly was \$15 million for five years, one

'We have laid the table. now

we have no control over is the

play on the field... I think having

three points for a win would be an excellent move," he said.

Adding: "If Brazil don't qualify. I

organising one of the world's

biggest events, is to sell the sport

He did not fear the possible

early exit of the United States

team, whose weaknesses were

exposed during a 2-0 defeat by Brazil in the U.S. Cup Sunday.

Our planning ignores whether the U.S. side does well. We

think the enthusiasm will be so

great. The sport will benefit no

matter how the U.S. team does.

If we do well on the field, then

that will be the cherry on the icing

professional soccer league in the United States, originally planned

to be in place before the World

Cup, would probably start in 1995

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condition, brand new (final price is US\$11,500).

Rothenberg said that a planned

on the cake."

with 12 clubs.

to the American public."

"Our main aim, apart from

World Cup chief says dull soccer could hurt U.S. interest

teed Monday that the Americanic public will be watching but said a display of dull, defensive soccer would greatly hinder the spores

future in the United States. World Cup Organising Comberg says he is moving mountains to sell the event to the public, even persuading U.S. television s zone take the revolutionary step of and showing matches without com-

But Rothenberg fears that his work could be undone if Americáns, having had their interest that aroused, then tuned in to the type abits of uninspiring soccer which marred some of the much-criticised

1990 World Cup. "There's no question that the better the play on the field, the more excited Americans will get.

interview

sive football with both teams tion" in U.S. sports television. playing to a 0-0 draw and trying to take the game to penaltics, it's up to them (the teams) to Rothenberg guaranteed that foreign fears of U.S. indifference to the event will be unfound-

will generate public interest.
"If you live in America and by

He said all 52 matches would

NEW YORK (R) — Organisers If we are treated to fantastic be shown live on either the ABC of the 1994 World Cup guaran- football. Then the results will be national network or the national great," he told Reuters in an cable station ESPN with no commercial breaks during the action.

He said he was confident that all tickets on offer would be sold

June next year you don't know about the World Cup, then you must be a hermit in a cave," he

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♠ K J 6 EAST *Q10872+953 - A2199767842 - KQ105 + Val. + 542 SOUTH

SOUTH A 4 K 5 The bidding:
West North East South
1.4 INT Pass 3 NT
4.7 Pass 4.4 5.4
Pag Pass Page

Pan Pass Pass Opening lead: Queen of 4 Farty in the bridge player's lexithe was will come across avoidance plays. The idea is simple enough: keeping danger hand off lead. The ling can sometimes involve

technique. Consider this Ween North could not double four hearts. South discarded the abyons competitive hal of four no tramp in fever of five clubs. There was too much risk that a heart lead limited the king could prove fatal to gul an promiser

"But if it's terrible, dull, defen- which he described as a "revolu-

and that a \$20 million advertising campaign run to promote the event during the next 12 months

GOREN BRIDGE

A IS FOR AVOIDANCE

Against five clubs West led the queen of spades. Declarer won in dummy, discarded a diamond on the ace of spades and ruffed a spade. The diamond suit had to be developed for a heart discard, so next

came a low diamond in the hope

that West could be forced to win a diamond. That was not to be. Down An avoidance play was necessary to land the contract. Unfortunately, declarer's technique was not good

Suppose South allows West's queen of spades to win the first trick! West's next play is irrelevant, hut assume the defender continues with a spade. Declarer wins, discarding a diamond from hand, then discards another diamond on the ace of spades. After cashing the ace of diamonds, declarer ruffs a dia-mond high. There are three trump entries in dummy, just enough to ruff two more diamonds to establish a long card in the suit, then get back to the table to take a heart discard on the good diamond. In the process all the enemy trumps are extracted, so declarer loses only one heart trick

and one spade! We are aware that declarer could have survived after the actual start, but the avoidance play is so much prettier and more likely to succeed.

commands Group D

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea 32nd-minute header by Ha Sukbeat Lebanon 2-0 Monday and Ju and added another goal with a World Cup soccer qualifying

world cup hopes alive, but its

chances appeared remoti The victory improved South Korea's record to five victories and one draw in six games, for a total of 11 points in the standings. With two more games to play against Bahrain and India, South korea needs only one draw to win

solidified its control of Asian 10-yard kick by Hwangbo Kwan Group D in the first round of 11 minutes into the second half. Mubarak Khamis Mubarak

play.

In the other game, Bahrain defeated India 3-0, keeping its India, which stands last in the five-team group.

> The matches in Seoul are the second half of Group D competition. The first half was played in Beirut, Lebanon, in May.

Asian and some Middle East nations are divided into six groups to compete for two slots in the 1994 World Cup finals. North Bahrain now has a record of Korea, Japan and Saudi Arabia 2-3-1, leaving it four points be-hind South Korea. already have won the right to compete in the second round compete in the second round South Korea went ahead with a Asian qualifier later this year.

Group D standings

				
Team	W	D	L	Pts.
South Korea	5	1	0	11
Bahrain	2	3	1	7
Hong Kong	2	1	2	5
Lebanon	0	4	2	4
India	•	1	4	1

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Lineker out for 6 weeks with broken toe

TOKYO (R) - Former England striker Gary Lineker, the highest paid player in Japan's new soccer league, will be out of action for at least six weeks with a broken toe, his club said Tuesday. A spokesman for Nagoya Grampus Eight said doctors had confirmed Lineker sustained a stress fracture of the second toe on his left foot during a match last Saturday. It was the latest blow in what has proved an unhappy first season so far for Lineker and Grampus in the new J. League, a 10-club championship launched May 15. Before he limped off during Saturday's 2-0 defeat by lowly Osaka Gambas, the former England and Tottenham Hotspur forward has scored just one goal

Morrison beats Foreman, likely ends his career

LAS VEGAS (R) — Tommy Morrison beat George Foreman on a unanimous decision Monday to win the world Boxing Organisation (WBO) heavyweight championship and put himself in line for a shot at one of the major titles. Morrison is now in line for a fight against Briton Lennox Lewis, champion of the World Boxing Council. Foreman had said he would quit the ring after this fight, but left the door open, particularly if he won. It appears Morrison may have ended Foreman's carrer, which spanned four decades in 15 years of fighting. "I had great days in boxing," Foreman said after the fight. "I'm proud of what I have done. The judges have spoken. God bless boxing."

Kaiserslautern sack coach after ending 8th

KAISERSLAUTERN (R) — German soccer club Kaiserslautern, who finished eighth in the Bundesliga, sacked coach Rainer Zobel Monday for failing to secure at least a berth in European competition next season. A statement from the club said no decision had yet been made on a successor to Zobel, 44, Heinz Feldkamp. Zobel still had a year of his contract to run. He had already begun to shape next season's squad by signing former German international defender Andreas Brehme from Real Zaragoza, and Swiss international midfielder Ciriaco Sforza from Grasshoper Zurich.

Price for NBA tickets soars

PHOENIX (AP) — The premium has been set for the upcoming NBA finals — from \$150 to \$1,500. Ticket brokers were quoting prices in that range, at least seven times the face value of the cheapest seats, for the first two games of the Phoenix Suns-Chicago Bulls Championship series Wednesday and Friday at the 19,023-capacity America West Arena. Suns seats have been the hottest tickets in town all year, but for the finals, the spots are going for more than ever.

England try to restore confidence against U.S.

BOSTON (R) - England, shattered by their World Cup defeat in Norway, have a perfect opportunity to restore some morale when they tackle the United States Wednesday in the U.S. Cup. And the irony of England training at Concord, where the British army were beaten in an early battle of the American war of independence in 1775, will not be lost on the home side as they seek only their second win over the English on a soccer pitch. England, attempting to play down last week's 2-0 loss in Norway just five days after dropping another World Cup point in Poland, see the four-team U.S. Cup as a rebuilding opportunity.

S.Korea beats Lebanon, French Open reveals ailing men's tennis

PARIS (AP) - A dearth of personalities, a lack of compelling matches and prevalence of arrogant attitudes seem to be afflicting men's tennis these days, a worrying trend reflected at the French

General attendance was off slightly from last year. Corporate sponsorship was down because of the recession. Scalpers' prices were lower, too. This year's tournament was the fiefdom of

hard-hitting millionaires who execute lobs - and opponents — with ease. Centre court action sorely lacked electricity.

Unprofessional, off-court attitudes also have contributed to disenchantment with the game. Inarticulate and often inaccessible, many top players shun one-on-one interviews, answer in monosyllables at mandatory post-match press conferences and even skip promotional appearances for the companies that guarantee their financial

security.
"Tennis players are absolutely the most pampered, inaccessible athletes in sports," says Tony Trabert, fomer French Open champion-turned-television commentator. "In the U.S. it's the only sport where locker rooms are off-limits.'

Trabert blames their ever-growing entourages - trainers, coaches, family and agents - for turning them into arrogant superstars who "think they're more important than the game itself." When Jim Courier skipped the annual world

champion's dinner last Tuesday, he unwittingly became the symbol of what many say ails tennis Courier defended the highly contested decision

by saying he came to Paris to "play tennis, not to socialise." 'The dinner was a tribute to the legends that made the game what it is," said Trabert. "Courier may not have understood the importance of the

dinner, but his agents should have." Disappointment in Courier, though tinged with respect, is widespread.

'Courier behaves like a monk and that's the way he says he has to live to get the job done," notes American television commentator and newspaper columnist Bud Collins. "But it certainly doesn't

Collins also points the finger at agents who are unwilling to educate their clients about their responsibilities to the game.

"The agents have become yes-men because they're afraid their clients will just go elsewhere."

For Trabert, who won the French Open in 1954 and 1955, the top players live in a cocoon.
"They become almost crippled, incapable of making their own decisions," he said. "Some don't

know to write a check." Many former players, however, applaud Courier's no-frills, workmanlike approach to ten-

"I don't think the players should disrupt practice or training during a Grand Slam tournament, if they don't want to," said former top 10 player Harold Solomon. "But it's true they have obligations. It's a question of finding the right balance. With Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe vir-

tually gone from the game and flamboyant Andre Agassi on the injured list, this year's French Open lacked drama and excitement from the outset. Goner are the days when euphoric winners and devastated losers spilled their guts, their bodies

caked with clay and sweat dripping into little pools under their chairs. "I think the money has overwhelmed them,"

Collins said. "The players are afraid to let it flow and let it show." This year's champion pocketed more than half a

million dollars. "They don't realise that television alone doesn't make a star, people interested in tennis want to read about it day in and day out," Collins said. 'But they don't understand that because most of

them don't read." Many observers complain that the ever-present, powerhouse baseline game, ultimately, is as dead-

ly as the players themselves. 'This is highway tennis — well-played, highlevel and tough," wrote Renaud Matignon in the daily Le Figaro. "But there are no trees or side roads with picturesque sights and interesting faces... the artistry is gone."

Jazireh's U-14 basketball team set for camp in Denmark

Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Al Jazireh Club, who finished third in Jordan's Basketball League last season, is sending one of its basketball teams to a training camp in Europe this summer.

not the men's or women's team but the under-14 boys team. who will be the first Jordanian players of this age-group to take part in such a camp abroad... Six teams will be taking part in the team camp organised by Assist Basketball Club of Vejle,

The two-week-long camp will include training and competition among teams from Denmark, Slovenia, Germany, Estonia and

Jazireh's coach Fadi Sabbah



"Providing adequate training said the U-14 team has been and competition for young playtraining on a regular weekly basis ers is what will prepare for a for the past two years. He added broader base of basketball in the that giving such an age-group country," Sabbah told the Jordan serious attention and training was Times. "The purpose of this bound to give positive results in camp will be to further enhance

the players' skills and add to their understanding of the game," he

Al Jazireh now has six basket-

ball teams, sponsored by Aramex. U-22, U-19, U-16, U-14, mini basketball as well as the men's and women's teams.



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Kuwait lifts boycott of firms dealing with Israel

BAHRAIN (AP) - Kuwait said Tuesday it had ended its participation in an "indirect" Arab boycott of Israel that blacklisted foreign firms dealing with the Jewish state.

But its foreign minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad, told the Kuwait News Agency his country was still committed to an economic embargo that prohibits the Arabs from establishing direct financial or commercial links with

'Kuwait will not break off from the direct boycott of Israel. But Kuwait and other Arab states have broken off from the indirect boycott for considerations of national interest," the agency, monitored in Bahrain, quoted the minister as saving.

He did not say which other countries had taken a similar stance. Aside from Egypt, Arab states remain publicly committed to the ban, enforced by the Damascus-based Arab Boycott of Israel Bureau

Sheikh Sabah, who also is deputy premier, said that the boycott rulings themselves 'allowed for such a breakaway if there were national considerations of a state to be taken into consideration.

He did not explain the national considerations that led to the decision, but cited as an example the import of military jeeps. manufactured by a company on

the Arabs' blacklist. The Kuwaiti move apparently was aimed at expressing gratitude to the United States, which led the coalition forces that rescued the emirate from a seven-month Iraqi occupation in the 1991 Gulf

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait's chief ally, had said after the Gulf war that it remained committed to the boycott of Israel, but would not add new companies to the existing blacklist

The Arab Boycott of Israel Bureau was set by the Arab League in 1951 to enforce a ban on economic dealings the Jewish

It prohibited any direct commercial or financial dealings between the 21 league members and Israel. Foreign firms that do business with Israel also risk being placed on a blacklist and their

District of Paris, police said.

the collaborationist Vichy regime.

damaging disclosures.

goods industry.

considered credible.

Ex-police head under

Vichy regime shot dead

PARIS (AP) -- Rene Bousquet, accused of deporting Jews while

head of the national police in Nazi-occupied France during World

War II, was shot to death in his apartment Tuesday, police said.

Mr. Bousquet, 84, had been charged with crimes against

humanity for his role in the deportation of tens of thousands of

Jews. The case had not been brought to trial, but Justice Minister

Pierre Mehaignerik said a ruling was expected within the next few

Mr. Bousquet was shot four times by a gunman shortly before

The man appeared to be about 50 and gained entrance to the

building by saying he had a package for Mr. Bousquet, police

quoted a building employee as saying. The gunman rushed out of the building and escaped via a nearby subway station, police said.

Police later said a man claiming to be the killer was arrested and

taken to a Paris police station. His name was not released, and

police gave no immediate indication whether his claim was

However, the man gave an interview to the television channel

TFI shortly before his arrest, giving his name as Christian Didier.

officer Klaus Barbie, then jailed in Lyon while facing was crimes

charges. He bluffed his way into the prison holding Barbie in May 1987, posing as a doctor and using false documents, but was found

Didier also has been involved in a number of media-attracting

stunts, such as interrupting live television programmes and political

Jewish leaders in France expressed regret that the killing ended

the possibility of a trial for Mr. Bousquet, which they had hoped

would shed more light on the extent of anti-Semitic persecution by

Patrick Quentine, a lawyer with the League against Racism and

Anti-Semitism, said the killing could be the work of one or more of

Mr. Bousquet's former colleagues who feared a trial might lead to

In the post-war era of war crimes trials, Mr. Bousquet was

convicted in 1949 of treason, but the decision was reversed for

"acts accomplished in favour of the resistance." He had prevented

the executions of a group of captured resistance fighters when the

He went on to a prominent career in banking and the luxury

Mr. Bousquet was charted in April 1991 for crimes against humanity. Similar charges were filed again in June 1992 against him and Maurice Papon. 83, the top police official in Bordeaux.

allied armies were on the verge of liberating Paris.

Didier served four months in prison for trying to kill Gestapo

9:00 a.m. (0700 GMT) in his sixth-floor apartment in the Posh 16th

days that could have cleared the way for prosecution.

products banned from Arab mar-

However, the restrictions have eased over the past 14 years as it became more difficult to enforce a stringent ban on foreign firms while Egypt maintained direct and open dealings with Israel.

Egypt was ostracised by the Arab League when it signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979, becoming the first Arab country to do so since the creation of the Jewish state in 1948. But it was readmitted to the

league in 1988, without having sever links with Israel that include a flow of oil that amounts to almost 25 per cent of the Jewish state's annual needs of 48 million

The United States and Germany, which reject the ban, have repeatedly urged their companies not to cooperate with the conditions set by the Arab Boycott of Israel Bureau.
The United States has been

pressing the Arabs to end the boycott as a confidence-building measure to bolster the search for Middle East peace settlement. Israel welcomed the Kuwaiti decision and called on other Arab

countries to follow suit.
"I consider the Kuwaiti statement to be positive," Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told reporters. "I think that other Arab countries should do like-

"It is high time. They have always given different excuses, like settlement policy," Mr. Peres added, referring to Jewish settlement building in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"This policy had changed in the meantime," Mr. Peres added, alluding to Israel's cutback in settlement construction projects. Mr. Peres' deputy, Yossi Beilin, said the United States

privately informed Israel of Kuwait's step six weeks ago. Mr. Beilin said the Kuwaiti step was significant because it was

"Even if it doesn't end the primary boycott (of Israel), it is certainly important because the moment it is public, it gives legitimacy — I hope — for other elements in the Arab World to join in lifting (the boycott)," Mr. Beilin told Israel Radio.



Security forces Tuesday examine the wreckage of car on the Cairo-Giza road after a bomb attack on a tour bus (AFP photo)

Palestinian delegation meets Qatari leader

DOHA (Agencies) — A ranking Palestinian delegation met Tuesday with the Qatari leadership as the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) took another step towards rapprochement with Gulf Arab countries that have ostracised it since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Mahmoud Abbas, a member of the PLO Executive Committee, West Bank leader Faisal Al Husseini and Saeed Kamal, the PLO's representative in Cairo, met with Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Ben Khalifa Al Thani, the official Qatari News Agency

The delegation came from the United Arab Emirates, and officials in both countries assured them of support for the Palestinian people towards a just settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Mr. Abbas said while in Abu Dhabi that he expected the Gulf

tour would have a positive effect

"We have noticed the deep understanding, and honest wish from the UAE (United Arab Emirates) side to support the Palestinian people," he said be-fore his departure for Qatar.

The PLO is urging the Gulf States to delay finalising any accords with Israel at multilateral Middle East peace talks until the Palestinian question is resolved. "We might have differences in

approach but the aim is the same: No normalisation of ties with Israel before frontline states reach a comprehensive peace settlement," a Palestinian source told Reuters. The PLO's concern follows re-

ports in recent days that Kuwait had eased its boycott on foreign firms doing business with Israel (see separate story). "An agreement in the multilateral should not be at the cost of the bilateral the Palestinian source on the Gulf states' stand towards said.

Israeli 'copters raid southeast Lebanon

RASHAYA, Lebanon (AP) --Israeli helicopters blasted the house of a Shiite Muslim activist in southeast Lebanon with two missiles Tuesday, wounding his wife and daughter, security

They said the attack came after four Israeli soldiers were wounded in an ambush by guerrillas in the village of Dallafa on the edge of Israel's self-styled "security

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the four were part of an eight-member mechanised patrol attacked by two anti-armour missiles at 5:00 p.m. (1400 GMT).

They had no further details on Kamal Musa in the village of zone.

for a temporary deal defining the

powers of president and parlia-

ment as a compromise to end

Sergei Yushenkov, a liberal

deputy close to the Russian presi-

dent, welcomed a centrist propos-

al to postpone the adoption of a

full-fledged constitution and

hammer out a temporary "law on

It is a definite compromise," Mr.

Yushenkov told reporters on the

third working day of a constitu-tional assembly called by Mr.

"The president's top priority, I

think, is not the constitution but

ending the crisis of power, which

is becoming clearer and clearer

and is fraught with the danger of

"I think it is a realistic way out.

Russia's political crisis.

power" instead.

MOSCOW (R) — Some of Boris
Yeltsin's allies suggested Tuesday
the Kremlin leader might settle

civil war," he added.
St. Petersburg Mayo
Sobchak said: "Majo

Zillaya in the western Bekaa Valkey with wire-guided missiles.

Zillaya is outside the security zone, nearly five kilometres north of Dallafa.

The Israeli army issued a si

ment saying the four were lightly

wounded and taken to Rambam hospital in Haifa. "One vehicle was lightly damaged. (Israeli) forces returned

artillery fire, and helicopters shot at the source of the fire," the statement said. It added that earlier in the

afternoon a soldier from the Israeli-allied South Lebanor Army (SLA) militia was woundthat episode but said 40 minutes ed when a roadside bomb ex-later two Cobra helicopters pioded near an SLA force in the attacked the one-storey house of central region of the "security

Yeltsin allies scent compromise

St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoly Sobchak said: "Major political parties and movements, realising

all the difficulties involved in

working out a single draft of the

constitution, have started prepa-

ration of a new law on power

Mr. Yeltsin has summoned 700

delegates from Russia's power

elite — deputies, regional chiefs, government ministers, business-

men, trade unionists and church

leaders - to finalise a new draft

constitution to haul the country

The president complains his attempts to transform Russia and

propel its ailing economy to a free

market system are hamstrung by

a constitution written for the dis-

banded Soviet Union and heavily

out of political crisis.

U.N. backs Sihanouk on interim government

PHNOM PENH (Agencies) -The United Nations on Tuesday strongly backed proposals by Cambodian Head of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk for an interim coalition of winners and losers to ensure a peaceful handover after last month's

The prince repeated on state radio that the national government he announced last Thursday, but scrapped the next day. was dead, but diplomats and U.N. officials see this as a tactical ploy as both sides jockey for a share of power.
"We recognise Prince Siha-

nouk's critical role in this process and support his efforts for national reconciliation," said U.N. spokesman Eric Falt. "Prince Sihanouk is unques-

tionably called to lead an interim joint administration and we regard his leadership role as a key to a peaceful transition."
Prince Sihanouk, speaking

after meeting the leaders of the defeated Vietnamese-installed government, Chea Sim and Hun Sen, said it was no longer possible for him to form his Cambodian national govern-

His scheme would have united Chea Sim's Cambodian People's Party (CPP) and the uncinpec opposition party 1 'rince

Norodon. which narrowly won the U.N.-run

The older ra vas forced to shelve the ioc. 12 hours later after Prince Ranariddh responded with several condi-

While saying he agreed to the idea in principle, Mr. Ranariddh said the CPP must recognise the election results and the makeup of the coalition should reflect the out-

His team has drawn up an

alternative draft, scrapping the

supreme legislature, the Congress

of People's Deputies, and elimi-

nating the post of vice-president currently held by Mr. Yeltsin's

estranged deputy Alexander

But stormy opening scenes

Saturday, when conservative Par-

liament Speaker Ruslan Khasbu-

latov stalked out of the assembly,

showed the huge task Mr. Yeltsin

faces in pushing through his draft.

Delegates have submitted at least

Mr. Yeltsin had begun a meeting with heads of Russia's ethnic

republics to clear the air after

Saturday's chaotic scenes, when a

communist delegate was bundled

out of the chamber by body-

guards after trying in vain to

A presidential spokesman said

1,500 amendments.

1 killed, 14 wounded in Cairo bomb attack

CAIRO (AP) - A bomb apparently aimed at a tour bus exploded Tuesday on the road to the Pyramids, killing an Egyptian and wounding 14 people includ-ing five British tourists, author-There was no immediate claim

responsibility but the blast appeared to be the work of Muslim extremists, who have targeted tourists and Egyptian officials in a (½ year campaign against the

secular government.

More than 150 people, mostly extremists and police, have died in incidents since January 1992. Three have been tourists.

Police said the bomb Tuesday was thrown from a railroad overpass on the road leading to the Giza Pyramids, eight kilometres

away.
Salah Al Derwy, a tourism ministry spokesman, quoted police as saying the dead Egyptian was in a Mercedes automobile that was ahead of the bus. Both the bus and car were heavily

The state-run Middle East News Agency (MENA) quoted Interior Ministry experts as saying the bomb consisted of a metal container packed with explosives and nails. They said they believed the bus was the target

One of the injured tourists, John Cook, told London's Independent Televison: "There was a blast and all the windows caved young Egyptian courier (tour - that have gone off in the Cairo guide) was sitting in front of us... area have been primed with nails and she was very badly injured."

Mr. Cook said the injured Britons suffered mainly facial .cuts. Dr. Rizk Ahmad Mahmoud, director of Al Haram hospital, said four of the British tourists including Cook's wife Carol and Cecil and Margaret Sharp —

were treated and released.

Another injured Briton.

Leonard Philips, had a piece of shrapnel removed from his chest and required further treatment. Mr. Mahmoud said.

Mr. Mahmoud said the group's Egyptian tour guide required surgery to stop internal bleeding from a lung injury.
The Interior Ministry, which is

in charge of police, said eight other Egyptians were wonded by the bomb. It said one was in serious condition. Journalists saw several damged cars on the road, including

the smashed Mercedes with blood on both sides of the front seat. A taxi had its rear window blown The bus, which belonged to the

travel agency Menatouurs, was parked at the hospital. Its right side was ripped by shrapnel, its windshield was broken.

Similar bombings have been blamed on the Islamic Group. A bomb packed with nails exploded at a Cairo cafe on Feb. 26, hours before the New York explosion, killing a Turk and a Swede and an Egyptian.

It was the first reported use of such a device by the extremists. in. The coach driver stopped, the Since then, three of four bombs

King rejects separate peace

(Continued from page 1)

the Palestinian parliament-inexile, had embodied the concept of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation based on the "free and voluntary volition of both peo-

The Associated Press quoted a senior PLO official as saying Jordan and the PLO had agreed to form committees to discuss relations between Jordan and the West Bank during the three-year interim period of Palestinian self-rule. "These committees will outline the

visions of the scope of relations be-tween Jordan and the West Bank during the period of Palestinian self-rule," the official said. "They will discuss the nature of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship, which eventually will be a confederation."

The King and Mr. Arafat, who arrived here late Monday on what was billed as a brief working visit accompanied by a high-level PLO delegation, held two meetings Tuesday, one at the Royal Court which included a tete-a-tete round of talks, and another at the Guest Palace where the PLO chairman is staying. Mr. Arafat said he and the King reviewed the outcome of the ninth round of peace talks and "the obstacles that the Palestinian-Israeli track has faced because of Israel's intransigence and its continued attempts to violate the terms of reference, principles and basis of the peace process..."
as contained in U.N. Security Council

Resolution 242. He described Israel's closure of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strin since late March as a challenge to the U.N. Security Council and the princi-

ples of the peace process. "Isracli attempts to annex Jerusalem is not accepted even by the U.S.," he said. "Jerusalem is the capital of the state of Palestine which will be confederated with Jordan." The Jordanian-Palestinian summit came ahead of a visit to the U.S. by

King Hussein, who is scheduled to meet with President Bill Clinton at the White House on June 18.
PLO officials said Mr. Arafat requested King Hussein to urge the U.S. to intervene in the peace talks, saying mainstream Palestinian sup-port for the negotiations could erode

if no progress was made. Mr. Arafat urged the King to reaffirm to Mr. Clinton that no Middle East peace agreement is possible without an equitable Palestinian Israeli accord. a PLO official said. "Arafat wants the King to tell Clinton that the mainstream Palestinian support for the peace talks could be totally undermined unless the U.S.

stepped in," the official said.

Mr. Arafat urged King Hussein to tell Mr. Clinton that "in view of the progress in Israel's negotiations with other Arabs, the Palestinians insist that Washington press Israel into entering a serious phase of negotia-tions with the Palestinians," said the senior PLO official.

Mr. Arafat is under pressure from hardline Palestinian factions to withdraw the Palestinian delegation from the talks. And opposition to the peace process could grow if the Palestinian-Israeli track of negotiations does not show tangible progress,

Mr. Arafat Tuesday chaired a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee and Palestinian delegates to the peace talks. No details were released of the closed-door meeting, but Palestinian sources said some of the delegates were expected to voice their reservations over the American and Israeli approaches which they see as not conducive to bringing about a just and comprehensive settlement. In other developments related to

the peace process:
-- The U.S. State Department formally announced that Israel, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan had accepted the American invitation to resume the peace talks in Washington on

The Palestinians are expected to

send a delegation to Washington this week for preliminary discussions. Mr. Arafat said Tuesday the PLO was awating American response to a 10-point memorandum the Palestinians had submitted to Washington. He declined to give details of the memo, saying it was up to the U.S. to reveal But informed sources said the

document sought clarifications on American viewpoints and positions on key issues such as the final objective of Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, the status of occupied Arab East Jerusalem, Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, and linkage between the interim period of Palestinian self-rule and the final status of the occupied

- Mr. Peres, the Israeli foreign minister, said the occupation authorities might allow many Palestinians they expelled since 1967 to return to their homes in the occupied territorpermitted to return in May.

Israeli officials said Mr. Peres was

asked at a closed committee meeting about a Haaretz newspaper repor that Israel had agreed to take back a large number of long-term expellees. There is indeed a possibility on the agenda, but this would not be

done as a gesture to come to the peace talks," an official, who attended the meeting, quoted Mr. Peres as saying.
"But if they (the Palestinians) wish,

we would do it during the course of negotiations," he said Mr. Peres told the committee. — Mr. Peres said he would "gladly

meet" his Syrian counterpart, Farouk Al Sharaa, but denied a newspaper report that such an encounter was The Maariv daily said Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin had agreed to such a meeting next week in Vienna where

Mr. Peres and Mr. Sharaa are to attend the World Human Rights Conference.
Israeli radios quoted Mr. Peres as saying Syria had turned down repeated offers from Israel for a meeting

of foreign ministers.

Asked about reports of a meeting in Vienna, Mr. Peres said the Au-

strian capital was "a large enough ciry to accommodate 100 foreign minis-ters, including those who don't meet each other." He added that "if the Syrian foreign minister will be ready to meet, I'll gladly meet him."

Maariv suggested Mr. Rabin wanted Mr. Peres to sound out whether Syria is agreeable to peace with open borders and full diplomatic relations, which Israel demands as a prerequisites to any pullback on the Golan. Mr. Rabin has been having difficul-ty selling any troop withdrawal to

right-wingers, particularly settlers in the strategic Heights.
At Mr. Rabin's request, the cabinet on Sunday rejected a proposal to hold

as saying: "The Golan settlers can run around like propellers to demonstra-tions, it won't help." Golan settlers accused Mr. Rabin

of "changing his mind like a prop-eller" about whether Israel would give up the Golan. Right-wingers said Mr. Rabin was creating negotiating difficulties by suggesting too strongly he would trade the Heights for peace. Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, speaking to repor-ters in Damascus, said: "There should be no separate or partial peace, and we cannot say that peace has been achieve or can be achieved if we overlook the Palestinian ques-

Mr. Khaddam expressed hope that the United States and Russia, co-sponsors of the talks, would pressure the Israelis to come to peace terms on the basis of Security Council resolu-tions 242 and 338.

Miyazawa seen as failure - Yomiuri

TOKYO (R) - An overwhelming 78 per cent of Japanese voters say Kiichi Miyazawa should not be reelected as prime minister when his two-year term expires in September, a newspaper poll showed Tuesday. Only 14 per real advise cent of 2,100 respondents to the distance Yomiuri Shimbun survey has been all advise the idea of Mr. Miyazawa, 73, policing serving another term as ruling and PLO1 party chief and premier. The poil asia met showed 73 per cent of voters showed 73 per cent of voters were shift this discatisfied with Japanese were dissatisfied with Japanese politics, currently mired in cynicism and corruption, and 68 per cent favoured a realignment of political forces. In an apparent reproach al forces. In an apparent reproach we design to Mivazawa widely personal ways and the management of posterior and the management of the management to Miyazawa, widely perceived as an ineffectual ditherer an ineffectual ditherer, more than half the respondents said the next prime minister should show leadership skills and be able to translate policies into action. The Israel number of those citing youth as a necessary quality for the post (R) doubled to 23 per cent from a distribution and distribut previous Yomiusi poll in July services 2.1991, just before Mr. Miyazawa took office. Asked who should an south succeed Miyazawa, respondents in the rest in cited more than 20 names. Former Finance Minister Ryutaro gree all sent the orani. Hashimoto topped the list with at the aut 11.2 per cent, followed by former Transport Minister Shintaro Ishihara with 10.9 per cent.

Ershad sentenced to 7-years

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DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) - A Market Street court Monday sentenced deposed Waster President Hussain Mohammad Ershad to seven years in prison is severed for selling government-owned land at a discounted price to 120 120 company owned by his wife. Monday's prison sentence is 👭 added to a 13-year term Mr. Ershad is serving for abuse of power and corruption during his 1982-90 rule. Judge Ansaruddin Sikdar also handed down a sevenyear sentence to Mr. Ershad's bled and a wife, Begum Raushan, also ac- as been well cused in the land deal. Mr. serbsyes. Ershad, 63, and his wife, 55, pleaded not guilty and said they are victims of political persecution. It was the 20th case of 1 Husen 4 corruption and abuse of office against Mr. Ershad, a former dest He 12 soldier-turned-president. Mr. 122 424 Ershad resigned in December https://per.a 1990, bowing to violent street interest even protests against his government. The ministra

Indian government roasted over power failure

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian newspapers gave the government a roasting Tuesday over a major power failure that left Delhi sweltering and sleepless on one of the hottest nights of the year. "Even by Delhi's own dismal standards of frequent power breakdowns through the summer," moaned the Hindustan Times in an editorial, the blackout was "in a class by itself." The ights went out across the city of eight million people minutes into Monday morning after the hottest day of the year so far, when the thermometer nudged through the
45 degree celsius (113 fahrenheit)
mark. All day Monday, residents
irritable after a hot sleepless night railed against the electricity au-thorities and the government. The prime cause of the blackout was the breakdown of one of Delhi's main power stations. This was compounded by simultaneous failures in the grid linking north India, which prevented the capital from drawing emergency supplies and plunged several other northern cities into. darkness as well.

Portuguese minister quits over sick joke

LISBON (R) - Portuguese Enand he has accepted it," Mr. Borrego told TSF radio after a meeting with Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva. Mr. Borrego's downfall was caused by a joke he told in a speech about water resources at Braga University in northern Portugal Friday night. Referring to the recent death of 18 patients receiving "What do they do with dead bodies in Evora?" "They take them away for recycling to get back the aluminium," was the answer to the joke, retold in many a bar since the scandal erupted last month.

Nations abusing human rights get U.S. military aid — Amnesty

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government has systematically provided military aid to countries with poor human rights records, a violation of U.S. law, a

human rights group said Tuesday. The report by the Londonbased Amnesty International said the administration and Congress had ignored a legal provision that bars security assistance to countries that show a consistent pattern of gross human rights viola-

"The law has never been applied," the report said.

"Each year that the Congress and the administration fail to act. governments receiving security assistance who clearly meet this definition are given the signal that the U.S. government cares more about its relationship with them than about the people who are so grossly abused," the report

Among countries with rights problems cited in the report were longtime U.S. friends such as Israel, Turkey, Guatemaia and the Philippines.

The report does not recommend an outright suspension of military aid to any specific countries but says the United States should "seriously assess" its assistance to countries that fail to protect human rights.

A senior State Department official, speaking on condition of anonymity, disputed the report's allegation that the administration has ignored the law. The official noted that security assistance has

been suspended in the recent past to Mauritania, Sudan, Equatorial Guinea, Thailand, Peru and Guatemala. In some cases, assistance resumed after conditions improved, the official said.

The report also analyses the numan rights record of selected countries which receive security assistance. Some examples:

The Israeli-occupied territories - Israeli authorities engage in torture and ill-treatment of Palestinians. There have been deaths in custody, extrajudicial killings, unfair trials and deportations. Israel receives \$1.8 billion in security assistance annually. Guatemala — in almost two

decades of military rule in Guate-

mala, thousands of deaths have

resulted from "flagrant breaches of human rights. Arbitrary arrest, torture, 'disappearance' and political killings were everyday realities. ... The choice of victim and the manner in which the abuses have been carried out suggest the involvement of members of the official security forces." Guatemala

is receiving \$400,000 for miliary training this year. (The report was written before the election Sunday of Ramiro de leon Carpio, a noted human rights activist, as president.)

Turkey - 'Torture is widespread and systematic in Turkey, especially during the first few days of detention following continue to be routinely inflicted on political and criminal prisoners. Methods ...include beatings on the soles of the feet, electric shocks, hosing with cold water under pressure and being blind-folded and stripped naked." Turkey is receiving \$3.1 million for military training this year. The Philippines - a pattern of

serious human rights violations and extrajudicial executions and "disappearances" have reemerged in the Philippines. "Aspects of the government's counterinsurgency strategy have contributed significantly to these violations." In 1993, the Philippines is receiving \$15 million in military grants and \$2.3 million in arrest. Torture and ill-treatment military training.

which has the looked vironment Minister Carlos Borrego resigned Monday night after a a referendum before agreeing to resick joke he told about a local turn the Golan to Syria.

During a Labour Party meeting health scandal caused political uproar. "I no longer have the Monday on peace talks, Mr. Rabin kicked up yet another fuss by saying conditions in which to continue with a serious environmental settler protests would not stop the return of the Golan. He was quoted policy so I decided to present my resignation to the prime minister

kidney dialysis treatment at evora hospital in southern Portugal due. to excess aluminium in the water. Mr. Borrego asked his audience: